

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
 جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرأى

AMMAN PLAZA
 THE BRITISH AIRWAYS THEATRE
 AT THE AMMAN PLAZA HOTEL
 PRESENTS
 Film: *Braveheart*
 Directed by: *Mel Gibson*
 in "You must be the husband"
 12th., 13th. and 14th. Dec. 1992
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AMMAN TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1992, JUMADA AL THANI 6, 1413

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Ban ordered on all firearms except small guns and rifles

Surrender of weapons set to begin today

AMMAN (Petra) — The government Monday introduced a set of regulations designed to control the possession and use of firearms and entrusted provincial governors and the Ministry of Interior to deal with matters related to these orders.

A statement issued by Ministry of Interior said that as "the country is entering a new phase characterised by forgiveness and tolerance as manifested in the royal amnesty issued by His Majesty King Hussein earlier this month, and in a bid to ensure the continued drive to bolster the atmosphere of democracy and freedom and to ensure that nothing can mar security in the country," it was introducing the new regulations on the possession of arms in the Kingdom.

The statement, issued following a meeting held at the ministry presided over by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, noted that the regulations were also aimed at putting an end to firing during celebrations and to ensure protection for the country and its citizens.

The regulations said:

- The government will licence only revolvers, pistols and hunting rifles;
- People possessing these types of firearms should acquire related licences from police before the end of January 1993;
- All other firearms are banned. Those who possess them should hand them over to the nearest police station or a people's army centre before the end of January 1993;
- All collected firearms will be kept safe in army depots and will be used in times of need by the concerned authorities under government supervision after a government order is given for their use;
- As of Feb. 1, 1993, no-one can possess any unlicensed firearm. Violators of these regulations will be prosecuted;
- The Ministry of Interior and security services as well as the people's army centres will embark on necessary measures to facilitate the process of issuing

licences for pistols and for receiving the banned weapons as of Dec. 1, 1992.

Call for better performance

In another development, Sharif Zeid Monday called on provincial governors to adopt decentralised policies in a bid to simplify government procedures and ensure better and quicker service to the public.

Addressing governors and other officials, the prime minister said that provincial governors should bolster ties and cooperation with the local citizens in their respective regions, particularly in matters related to providing basic services and in defining development projects.

Discussion at the meeting, which was attended by Minister of Interior Jawdat Shoul, covered public administration, performance and modernisation of procedures in government offices.

The meeting was attended by the directors of Public Security and General Intelligence departments.

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday met with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz and Foreign Minister Mohammad Said Al Sahhaf, who are on their way home after attending a U.N. session.

In talks with the two officials, King Hussein stressed that rebuilding a pan-Arab stand requires a "distinguished and intensive Arab effort capable of confronting the challenges facing the Arab Nation," the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

King Hussein and the Iraqi officials reviewed Arab and international affairs in light of the formation of regional and international economic and political blocs, it added.

The audience was attended by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Royal Court Chief

King meets Iraqi ministers; Aziz optimistic of eventual end to sanctions after U.N. talks

Khaled Al Karaki.

Mr. Aziz, who addressed the United Nations Security Council last week, told Petra that the felt there was a certain degree of world understanding of Iraq's suffering and the way the superpower has dealt with Iraq in the Gulf crisis.

Petra quoted Mr. Aziz as saying that Iraqis "will remain firm in the face of dangers and challenges facing it as a result" of U.N. sanctions.

He said there was a better understanding by some countries of Iraq's situation.

He said the major problem was the position of the United States, Britain and France, which want the sanctions against Iraq to continue.

"The better understanding of Iraq's position provides a good

base for future moves," he said.

The incoming administration of Bill Clinton is demonstrating a better understanding of the sufferings of the Iraqi people, Mr. Aziz said.

If the new administration does not believe in violent interventions — like the Bush administration did to prevent the United Nations from taking the right position — then this understanding will eventually be turned into tangible positions," he said.

Mr. Aziz said the Iraqi people were suffering as a result of the sanctions, "but this people have held and will continue to hold firm in the face of this challenge."

Turkey is the biggest loser from the sanctions, he said. "The Turks realise this fact, and some Turkish figures even give accu-

Returnees fuel record growth in economy

By Jane Arraf

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's economy, fuelled by a Gulf crisis population boom, is estimated to grow a record 11.5 per cent in 1992 but will fall back next year when a consumer spending spree eases, government sources said Monday.

Real growth in gross domestic product (GDP) has soared from 0.5 per cent in 1991 to more than 300,000 citizens forced back from the Gulf after Iraq's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait established homes and businesses in Jordan.

The sources said GDP, after factoring in inflation, estimated at four per cent in 1992, was expected to grow by about six per cent in 1993 as construction and sales of durable goods ease.

"We are not going to have the same kind of growth in consumer spending and construction but we might have growth in production because of all this investment this year," said one official source who did not want to be identified.

Parliament's Finance Committee next month will begin discussing the 1993 budget which for the first time in Jordan's history shows a surplus before factoring in capital spending.

The JD 1.38 billion budget, boosted by sharply higher tax revenue, also cuts the budget deficit to JD 48 million from JD 107 million.

The government sources said 1992 growth was influenced by a 22 per cent rise in construction and a 21 per cent increase in

Peace Now: Settlements should not block peace

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel's Peace Now movement said in a report Monday that Jewish settlers have made only "negligible" inroads into the occupied territories and should not be allowed to impede peace with the Arabs.

Peace Now, Israel's largest peace lobby, supports a land-for-peace compromise with the Palestinians and has urged Israel's delegation to the U.S.-backed peace negotiations to strive for such a conclusion.

Peace Now's report estimated that Jewish settlers make up just six per cent of the population of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, "a negligible minority within the Palestinian population."

It put the settler population at about 110,000, compared with 1.95 million Palestinians in the occupied territories — about 1.15 million Palestinians in the West Bank and nearly 800,000 in the Gaza.

"The antagonism between these two populations, competing for the same strip of land, will only escalate until a peaceful solution based upon a political division between Israel and the Palestinians is negotiated," the report said.

It concluded: "This settlement must grant Palestinian control over lands, resources, construction capabilities and development."

Bob Lang, a spokesman for the Jewish settlement movement, did not disagree that the settlers were now a minority — his group uses the figure 126,400 — but he said Peace Now was drawing the wrong conclusion from their small number.

"Under their argument, the Galilee should be given up," he said of the fertile plateau in northern Israel. "It took 100 years before there were finally more Jews than Arabs in the Galilee."

Also Monday, Israeli media reported that a cabinet committee recommended excluding most settlements from government benefits designed to help poor, rural towns within Israel.

"The move would deprive most of the 144 settlements of tax breaks, infrastructure subsidies, business grants and lower mortgages. The exceptions would be settlements near occupied Jerusalem and along the Jordan River, Israel Television said.

Mr. Lang said the settlement movement would fight any effort to deprive it of subsidies. "If communities along borders with Lebanon and Jordan get them, as necessary for security, then why not those in the territories?" Mr. Lang said.

The government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin came to power in July promising to shift funding away from the settlements and toward development inside Israel, where unemployment has hit more than 11 per cent.

The previous right-wing government of Yitzhak Shamir had sharply increased settlement building to ensure Israel would not cede the occupied territories.

Amiram Goldblum, who wrote the Peace Now report, told a news conference that Israeli government policies have discriminated against the majority Palestinians.

— More than 60 per cent of the land is under direct Israeli control.

— 2-1/2 times as much water was given to settlers than to Palestinians for home consumption. In agriculture, settlers in the West Bank get 13 times more than Arabs, and in the Gaza, seven times more.

— Settlers get nearly 50 times more government support than Palestinians, or 96.5 cents out of every dollar spent in the occupied territories.

"This is not a hidden conspiracy; this is discrimination from above, from government offices," he said.

Ghali recommends use of military force in Somalia relief operations

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Secretary-General Boutros Ghali Monday recommended the use of military force to deliver food and emergency supplies to the starving people of Somalia.

The U.N. chief said in a letter to the Security Council:

"There is now no alternative but to resort to Chapter VII of the charter," which provides for the use of force if necessary.

"The focus of the council's immediate action should be to create conditions in which relief supplies can be delivered to those in need," he said.

In the nine-page letter, Dr. Ghali outlined five options, including the use of force, but left the final decision to the Security Council.

"If forceful action is taken," he said, "it should preferably be under United Nations command and control."

If this is not feasible, he said, an alternative would be an operation undertaken by member states acting with the authorisation of the Security Council.

One of those members, the United States, has offered to send

30,000 troops for a U.N. mission in Somalia.

Washington insists that any U.S. troops helping deliver food to the Somalis be part of a U.N.-sponsored multinational force.

Citing past failure to get sufficient aid to the people, the U.N. chief said he has reached "the conclusion that the Security Council now has no alternative but to decide to adopt more forceful measures to secure the humanitarian operations in Somalia."

A final decision rests with the Security Council, which was expected to decide which options it prefers and take action this week.

There was no immediate council reaction.

A senior U.S. official has suggested that the United Nations may have to install an interim government and organise elections in Somalia, the Washington Post reported in its Monday edition.

The official, who was not identified, said a U.S.-proposed military operation to protect relief supplies may need to be followed by an ambitious U.N. effort to

end anarchy in that country.

"Somalia has no government now, none. It needs some kind of structure," the official was quoted as saying. "You may need a U.N. protectorate, which the U.N. would manage and try to turn back into a state."

He cited as a model the U.N.'s involvement in Cambodia where it is conducting peace-keeping operations.

The White House said the Bush administration was interested only in ensuring the safe delivery of humanitarian supplies in Somalia, not in changing the ruling structure of the strife-torn country.

"Our interest is on working with ... a U.N. organisation's plan to ensure the safety of relief supplies. Most feel that that would require military action of some kind," spokesman Marlin Fitzwater told reporters.

"We intend to work only within the U.N. and our purpose is not to establish a government or change the ruling structure of the country, but simply to provide the safety for delivery of humanitarian supplies," he said.

Somalia — the tragedy is far from over

By P.V. Vivekanand
 Jordan Times Staff Reporter

HUNDREDS IF not thousands are still dying of hunger and diseases every day in Somalia despite the intensified international effort, but the Somalis have no-one but their leaders and past and present bankrollers to blame for their tragic tale of starvation, misery and death.

And if anyone wants to extend a helping hand, then be or she better be prepared to pay for it. Even at that, there is no telling the help would reach the needy rather than the gunmen who roam around the country, imposing their own laws and making a living with the gun.

Malnutrition and related diseases take their toll on those who manage to dodge the bullets and survive starvation, which, at this point in time than ever, could be largely attributed to the lawlessness and political bickering in the country.

That is not to say that the efforts undertaken by the United Nations and a multitude of international relief agencies have gone down the drain; but the magnitude of the problem is so massive that even today, several months after the world wake up to the disaster in Somalia, there could still be pockets where tens of thousands are surviving on roots and grass and hundreds dying every day.



Ten-year-old Ali devours his first real food in months at a feeding centre in Bardere, Somalia. He was one of the lucky few who made it to the site last week after a 90-kilometre trek from a remote village, surviving on grass and roots (Photo by P.V. Vivekanand)

"The reality is that we just don't know how many are out there," says Mark Stirling, the Somalia representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). "There could be tens of thousands or there could be thousands, but we simply don't have the means to ascertain and we are severely handicapped."

"We can move only very slowly and considerations that we have to apply here have very little to do with a typical situation of famine and drought," he says.

There is no mistaking the inference: Security of relief supplies and those who distribute them is the biggest problem facing relief agencies in the

law of the jungle prevails. The fittest — meaning those with heavier guns — survive.

Exortion and banditry have become a way of life in the country, where decades of corrupt rule, clan battles, foreign interference, drought and famine coupled with freelance looting have brought about untold misery for its people — who once used to be thriving farmers and livestock breeders.

Humanitarian work in the shatters of Somalia is almost impossible, and it is shocking to learn that dozens of hurdles lurk in every phase of relief activities.

Every cargo plane carrying food for the hungry in Somalia has to pay "landing charges" — to whomsoever happens to be in control of that particular strip of land at that particular time.

But that does not provide any assurance for the relief supplies; sometimes the same gunmen who collect the "landing charges" ambush the trucks carrying the food to feeding centres. And that warrants "protection on the ground" by the "local police force" — motley bands carrying almost every kind of weapon and driving improvised pick-up trucks mounted with heavy guns. Their charges range from \$80 to \$200 a day depending on the size of the armour.

(Continued on page 2)

The writer has just returned after a three-week visit to Somalia.

...sts damage aid
 ...cks in Kurdistan
 ...NEVA (AP) — Explosions
 ...aged six trucks that took
 ... relief supplies through
 ... Kurdish-occupied northern
 ... a U.N. official said Mon-
 ... no injuries were reported.
 ... U.S.-donated wheat seeds
 ... what flour on two of the
 ... were destroyed, said the
 ... The situation is still very
 ... the official said. He
 ... used to speculate on reports
 ... the explosions may have
 ... caused by time-bombs
 ... to the trucks by Iraqi
 ... al to President Saddam Hus-

...laber In Jeddah
 ... (Petra) — Foreign
 ... Kamel Abu Jaber ar-
 ... Monday leading a
 ... delegation to a two-
 ... extraordinary meeting of
 ... foreign ministers on the
 ... Herzegovina conflict.
 ... which starts Tues-
 ... discuss means to end the
 ... strife in Bosnia-
 ... ena.
 ... says he still
 ... health problems
 ... (J.T.) — Palestinian
 ... Yasser Arafat has told Al
 ... that he still suffers the effects
 ... of a plane crash in April. "The
 ... of the accident are still
 ... doctors still have re-
 ... on long distance travel
 ... and long," Mr. Arafat said, explain-
 ... the interviewer, senior
 ... journalist Sead Al Bazzaz,
 ... had not visited Baghdad
 ... were in Tunis, Mr.
 ... said he had been planning
 ... to Baghdad — a 10-hour
 ... — in June when doctors
 ... man decided he needed
 ... They removed a cerebral
 ... clot caused by his April
 ... crash in the Libyan desert.
 ... look forward to visiting
 ... and to greeting my brother
 ... Hussein and my brothers
 ... Iraqi leadership and to our
 ... people in Baghdad,"
 ... (PLO) leader said.
 ... nir hospitalised
 ... (VIV) — Former Israeli
 ... Minister Yitzhak Shamir
 ... to hospital Sunday.
 ... said Mr. Shamir, 76, was
 ... suffering from any serious
 ... but would undergo tests
 ... the next days, the director of Tel
 ... Hospital in Tel Aviv
 ... said he was in good condition.
 ... Dr. David Gold, he added, Mr.
 ... head of the leading
 ... Likud Party, cancelled
 ... meeting with visiting
 ... President Francois Mit-
 ... last Thursday because of
 ...
 ... win fight to
 ... in Israel
 ... (R) — The
 ... army has struck a deal with
 ... in the occupied Gaza
 ... which will allow youths aged
 ... up to work in Israel, the
 ... Gaza trade union said.
 ... the Palestinian trade
 ... in Gaza agreed to drop a
 ... court case to force the
 ... to lift age restrictions on
 ... said union head Raseem
 ...
 ... 14m lent by
 ... employment fund
 ... (Petra) — Prime
 ... Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker
 ... chaired a meeting of the
 ... Development and Employ-
 ... (DEF) board of directors.
 ... report presented at
 ... said the fund had
 ... 134 applications for pro-
 ... worth JD 770,000, 88 per
 ... of them were for industries
 ... for agricultural pro-
 ... The report also said that
 ... fund had approved JD
 ... in loans to 70 projects in
 ... parts of the Kingdom,
 ... to almost JD 4 million
 ... funds provided to projects
 ... fitting individuals, groups
 ... societies. The projects will
 ... a 2000 job opportunities,
 ... the report. The
 ... approved the fund's poli-
 ... priorities and plans of action
 ... at expanding financing
 ... The fund is expected to
 ... JD 13 million next year
 ... finance 2,000 projects, de-
 ... to create, 6,000 job oppor-

Arab-Israeli conflict still revolves around 1947 U.N. resolution

By G.G. Labelle
The Associated Press

TEL AVIV — The U.N. partition resolution passed 45 years ago stands as a shrine to the sad truth that Israelis and Palestinians can never seem to agree.

In 1947, Jewish leaders accepted the division of Palestine into Jewish and Arab states, but the Arabs rejected it. Today, the PLO argues for two states, but Israel says no.

The reversed roles make U.N. Security Council Resolution 181 more than a footnote to history. The partition question remains central to Middle East peace talks and to the Arab-Israeli conflict that has burst into war five times in those 45 years.

"People still live according to that decision," said Samuel Peleg, spokesman for the Israeli group Peace Now, which lobbies for a settlement with the Arabs.

Resolution 181 was adopted on Nov. 29, 1947, against the background of Zionist efforts to found a Jewish homeland and Arab resistance that grew increasingly bitter as Jewish refugees from Nazism poured into Palestine.

Its solution was to divide the British mandate into two states and put Jerusalem under international rule to protect its link to three religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Zionists led by David Ben-Gurion accepted the resolution despite the view of many Jews that they should not cede part of Biblical Israel. To the leadership, a compromise was better than nothing.

In its declaration of independence in 1948, Israel pledged to work for implementation of Resolution 181 and its promise of "economic union over the whole of Palestine."

Palestinians were divided, but opponents of the settlement prevailed. The resolution also was opposed by surrounding Arab states. Five Arab armies invaded when Israel declared independence, but were defeated.

"With immaculate hindsight, we can say we should have agreed, but it's easy to understand the resistance to accepting the very unjust loss of land," said Hanan Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the current Palestinian negotiators.

Palestinians felt the land where they had lived for centuries was part of their heritage. The resolution would have given 55 per cent of it to the Jews, who were fewer than one-third of the population and owned about 7 per cent of the land.

As a result of the 1948 war, Israel wound up with 77 per cent of the territory. By U.N. estimate, more than 700,000 Palestinians fled or were driven from their homes. Israel seized the rest of the land — the West Bank and Gaza Strip — in the 1967 war.

Even though they lost all five of the wars, the Arabs continued to insist that all of Palestine be returned.

Then, in 1988, a year after the Palestinian uprising began in the occupied Arab territories, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in effect accepted Israel's existence by declaring a separate Palestinian state.

PLO chief Yasser Arafat urged the Israelis to talk peace.

In the talks with Israel, Palestinian negotiators are trying to obtain a legislature — something promised for both sides in the 1947 resolution — as a symbol of future statehood.

Israel opposes a Palestinian state and offers only limited self-rule for five years, then negotiations on the future of the occupied territories.

Uri Dromi, head of Israel's press office, said the Palestinians forfeited a state by rejecting openings for peace that began with Resolution 181.

"It's too late," he said. "The situation has changed."

Polla indicate most Israelis oppose a Palestinian state. Mr. Dromi said they see it as a threat to their security.

"They fear that a Palestinian state in the heart of Israel would be a threat in itself and, worse, it might become a launching pad for future aggression from the east," he added.

Mr. Dromi said Israeli attitudes would change after a period of peace under autonomy, but he still did not suggest that a Palestinian state was possible.

Mr. Peleg, the spokesman for Peace Now, said its job is to change attitudes: "We have to destroy the psychological barriers between the two nations and convince young Israelis that the Arabs are just another nation."

Dr. Ashrawi, the Palestinian spokeswoman, said the peace talks have not altered the out-of-sync relationship between Palestinians and Israelis.

"Always, when one side is ready for one thing, the other is not," she noted. "This has been the case for a long time."



CROSSING TO ISRAEL: Gaza Strip residents pass through a security check at the Erez checkpoint on their way to work in Israel. This crossing into Israel looks like a regular border crossing, separating the occupied Gaza Strip from Israel with strict security measures taken since the outbreak of the intifada (AFP photo)

Tehran could develop nuclear weapon by 2000, CIA report says

NEW YORK (Agencies) — A draft CIA report predicting that Iran could develop a nuclear weapon by the year 2000 is expected to be challenged by other U.S. intelligence agencies, the New York Times reported Monday.

Senior administration officials told the Times the report reflects views expressed by CIA Director Robert Gates in testimony before Congress in March.

But other intelligence experts disagree with Mr. Gates and were expected to voice their opinions when the report is reviewed this week by other agencies, the newspaper said.

Another report a year ago concluded only that some of Iran's revolutionary leaders were intent on developing nuclear weapons, adding that the programme was in an early stage.

The latest report says Iran has a team of experts, many of them American-educated, who are leading the nuclear programme. "Iran has powerful political incentives for developing nuclear weapons and is trying to develop a broad based nuclear infrastructure that it hopes will give them the option for weapons if they decide to exercise it," one administration nuclear expert told the Times.

"But I don't see in Iran the same kind of crash nuclear programme that we've learned about in Iraq," said the expert, who spoke on condition of anonymity, as did the other administration officials.

The draft report's assessment was endorsed by the principal Iranian Resistance Movement. "According to our information, (President Hashemi) Rafsanjani himself is overseeing the programme," Shahin Gbodadi of the People's Mojahedin of Iran by telephone from Washington early Monday.

The group says its sources within the regime tell it that Iran increased its nuclear weapons development budget to \$300 million in 1992 from \$200 million last year.

The CIA report, known as a national intelligence estimate, is one of many analyses of Iran's \$2 billion a year military buildup.

Meanwhile, Iran's navy commander said Tehran had bought two more submarines from Russia and was not the first Gulf state to acquire such a vessel.

Responding to Western charges that Iran was raising military stakes by introducing submarines into the Gulf, Rear Admiral Abbas Mohtaj was quoted by Salam newspaper Monday as saying Saudi Arabia has owned a submarine since 1988 and now has two in service.

None of the recognised authorities on Middle East military affairs list Saudi Arabia as having submarines and the report by Mohtaj could not be independently verified.

Salam quoted him as saying that Kuwait had also ordered a submarine from the West.

Iran's first submarine, a Kilo-class attack vessel which Mohtaj said would have a 52-man crew, joined the Iranian fleet in the southern Gulf earlier this month after a voyage from Russia.

R-reports at the time said it was one of three submarines bought from Russia but the Iranian confirmation.

Adm. Mohtaj put the cost of the three submarines at \$450 million each but did not say when the two additional vessels would reach Iran.

He said the submarine already in service had been renamed Tareh 981, was 73 metres long, 10 metres wide, and had "advanced facilities and weapons for naval war."

The admiral was speaking at a news conference Sunday. His comments on Iran's acquisition of two more submarines were not carried by the Iranian news agency (IRNA).

Adm. Mohtaj defended what he called Iran's "natural and legal right" to bolster its military defences, and criticised Western interest in Iran's purchase of submarines previously estimated to have some cost \$600 million each.

"It is surprising that they are raising such a hullaboo over a single submarine," IRNA quoted him saying.

Mohtaj said Iran's military expenditure was far less than its pro-Western Arab neighbours in the Gulf Cooperation Council.

He said GCC states had signed arms deals worth \$200 billion over the past 10 years. In contrast, Iran's military spending over the past five years totalled \$8 billion, including running costs.

Somalia — tragedy far from

(Continued from page 1)

And, if any of these gunmen — called "technical" in U.N. parlance — opens fire in their "line of duty," then you have to do something more: count the discharged bullets (or grenade or whatever) and pay up.

The entire armoury of the country has been divvied up among the various clans and groups, what could be lacking is made up for by external forces generous with their contributions of vintage but still lethal weapons.

Almost every country and government in Africa and the Middle East is freely mentioned as the forces which once used to pull the strings in Somalia or continuing to do so. Regardless of who and when, the net result today is misery and slow death for the Somalis.

Those who do not have to line up at feeding centres for international food handouts are those who are in the extortion and looting business.

"There is no other way of putting it," said a logistic officer with the U.N. in Somalia. "If you want to feed my hungry family, my father, my brother, my sister, my wife, my children, then you better pay me to allow you to do it, this is what they are telling us."

Despite repeated assurances of cooperation and numerous agreements, the leaders of the warring factions are either parties to the threats or exercise little control over groups beyond their immediate neighbourhoods.

No wonder estimates say that it costs almost the same as the value of relief supplies — if not more — to pay for "protection."

A classic example is a demand by some hospital officials in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, that they have to be "compensated" if voluntary doctors are permitted into the wards.

"When a team of Arab doctors came here a few months ago offering voluntary service as their contribution to their Somali brethren, we had to pay \$500 per month to the hospital director for his kind permission to let them work," said the U.N. logistic officer, who preferred not to be named.

Indeed, it is surprising that the aid agencies are staying on, doing what they could to feed the hungry and heal the sick in Somalia. And it is also unsurprising that they are calling for a speedy deployment of international forces to protect shipments and work.

"I am sure that much more effective could be brought in if we do not have to the security costs," said Mr. Stirling.

Every ship carrying food has been at port in the last few weeks, rotting at the port, major victims of the power struggle.

answer, relief officials to have international take over security which could be the food for the one so inhabitants of the those in the immediate surroundings.

But it is easier done. Faced with the of being deprived of "cash and of a loot relief supplies, a five foreign force is the country, the anti — which are under control of anyone and tribal affiliations to put up stiff resistance to national sovereignty. And it means a further mass shed all over the country.

In the meantime, the people are trekking hundreds of miles in search of food centres while surviving on grass and losing in the bargain.

At a feeding centre in Bardera, itself changing hands four times in the past a group of 30 arrived noon last week after kilometres from a village. They were the of the entire village none of them had food for months.

Haluma, who is 38 70 or more, had left with her two daughters and children. By the reached the feeding wading through the warding off bandits of everything that was the mother of a no-longer a grandchild.

"The rains kill us kills us... the bandits cried Haluma, once teacher. "And our whoever is left of us."

Settlements should not be blocked

(Continued from page 1)

Israel's government, under pressure to improve its human rights record, is reconsidering regulations allowing torture of Palestinian detainees, a civil rights lawyer said on Monday.

Avigdor Feldman last year petitioned the supreme court to cancel recommendations of a 1987 state inquiry authorising the use of "moderate physical pressure" to extract confessions from Palestinians.

He said the court put off a hearing scheduled for this week after the government said the police and justice ministers were reexamining the recommendations contained in the Landau Commission report.

"I believe they are serious about reexamining the Landau Commission recommendations and there is an orientation to cancel them," he said. But he expected the Israeli Shin Bet secret service would pressure the government also.

Human rights groups over the past two years have repeatedly said the recommendations were being used by the Shin Bet to justify torturing Palestinian prisoners jailed for resist occupation.

Mr. Feldman said the government to cancel the recommendations, stating that torture was used against Palestinians repeated protests by rights groups.

Israel denies torturing prisoners but the Israel Committee of the International Committee of the Red Cross and Palestinian human groups have repeatedly of doing so and have accounts of maltreatment.

Shots fired at army

An Israeli soldier was Monday by shots fired at an army look along the demarcation Jordan, the army said. Soldiers returned fired the area, the army shooting was near an about four kilometres the Sea of Galilee.

The trooper was shot head, but the army said only slightly wounded.

U.S. offers \$2 million to trap Lebanon kidnappers

BEIRUT (R) — The United States offered up to \$2 million for anyone who helps trap pro-Iranian kidnappers responsible for killing three American hostages in Lebanon.

The offer was made Monday in a State Department advertisement in Arabic in the Lebanese newspaper Al Hayat.

"There is a price we pay as a result of terrorism, and a price we will pay to stop terrorism," said the title of the full-page advertisement in the London-based daily.

The pictures of three slain American hostages — William Buckley, William Higgins and Peter Kilburn — appeared in the advertisement, signed by the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service.

"There were three American hostages who did not return from Lebanon. Their terrible ordeal did not end in freedom, but ended in their savage execution on the hands of their captors," it said.

"And to present these criminals to justice, the American government offers rewards up to \$2 million.

The advertisement said the money would come from a programme aimed at seeking clues to past acts of terrorism or any planned for the future.

Mr. Buckley, CIA station chief in Beirut, was killed in 1985. Higgins, a Marine lieutenant-colonel serving with a U.N. observation force, was killed in 1989 and Mr. Kilburn, a librarian at the American University of Beirut, was killed in 1986.

Lebanese Defence Minister Mohsen Dalloul, a pro-Syrian official who helped mediate the release of two German hostages in Lebanon this year, denounced any hunt and said the hostage-takers had received a pledge guaranteeing their safety.

Over a dozen Americans were among Westerners taken hostage in Lebanon. All but the three in the advertisement were freed.

Spectre of Iran spurs Muslim nations to action

By John Baggaley
Reuters

ALGIERS — Deeply suspicious of Iran, some Maghreb and other Arab countries are mobilising to counter Islamic fundamentalist subversion.

Egypt and Algeria, who have suffered most from killings and sabotage attempts, blame Tehran openly.

And Cairo and Tunis at least, see Sudan as Iran's surrogate, training, arming and dispatching extremists to stir up trouble as part of an Iranian quest for regional superpower status.

Diplomats say the threat has pushed to the background some of the Arab countries' differences over the Gulf war. Then, for example, Egypt backed the U.S.-led coalition and many Algerians, though not their government, supported Iraq openly.

Algeria and Egypt are now publicly cooperating against what President Hosni Mubarak terms Iran's "aggression and blackmail."

Algerian Religious Affairs Minister Sassi Lamouri, arriving in Cairo last week, said of his trip: "Our meeting comes within the framework of a joint plan to preserve our society and shelter the Arab-Islamic World from the Iranian assault."

He added: "Our countries are targets of virulent aggression on Iran's part in an attempt to impose an extremist spirit and ensure spiritual expansion."

One Western diplomat said the coordination declared on spiritual matters followed other quieter cooperation.

"Algeria sent some high-level officers to Egypt some months ago for anti-terrorist coordination," he said.

Neighbouring Tunisia has arrested thousands of members of the banned Islamic Nahdha (Renaissance) Movement and jailed several hundred recently.

It now sees the threat of fundamentalism going beyond Arab borders, a view apparently shared by some NATO officials.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Early this year, the then German Defence Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg warned a high-level defence conference: "Especially in the Islamic Arc of Tension stretching from Pakistan to Algeria, there is a zone of potential upheavals that reach into the direct vicinity of Europe."

Tunis has asked the United Nations for United Action, urging it "to cooperate sincerely in order to isolate the extremist and terrorist groups sheltering behind religion."

Algerian presidency member Redha Malek took warnings to a G-15 meeting for South-South Cooperation this month, saying: "Extremist concepts which certain regimes seek to export as a base for their regional hegemony are in flagrant contradiction not only with nations' sovereignty but also with Islam."

Parliamentary power in Algeria nearly fell to the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) in a general election but the authorities cancelled it last January to the loudly-voiced disgust of Iran.

Algeria kicked out the Iranian ambassador and recalled its own from Tehran. In March they outlawed the FIS.

Two weeks ago they ordered more Iranian diplomats, cutting each side's representation to a "symbolic" level because of what they termed Tehran's interference.

"There seems no special reason now unless they've decided to act together with other states — perhaps since they met at the Maghreb (Arab Union) summit" earlier this month, said one diplomat in Algiers.

Prime Minister Belaid Abdesslem a week ago warned foreign states to stop supporting fundamentalists or see ties suffer. Diplomats and commentators saw this as aimed at Iran, Sudan, Libya and, indirectly, Pakistan.

Both Algeria and Egypt recently introduced anti-terror laws. Pro-FIS imams were chased out of mosques which gave fundamentalists their powerbases in Algeria. Cairo is now putting all mosques under government control.

The International Institute of Strategic Studies warned early this year that fundamentalism was forcing policy-makers to reassess stability in North Africa.

"In the Arab West, established regimes face the challenge... led by Islamist radicals who have articulated the demands of largely youthful populations for bousing," jobs...

Crushing extremists is top priority for several countries as they struggle to right their economies and end the poverty feeding fundamentalism. Like Algeria, they appear to be winning on the security front, at least in the short-term.

The price, however, has been at least a temporary halt in moves to democracy. Algeria at the weekend warned its citizens they may face further curbs on freedom next month.

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 771111
Radio Jordan 771111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/22
Khaldil Maternity, J. Ann. 642816
Al-Khaldil Maternity, J. Ann. 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mallik, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmiciani 664114
Shmiciani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 648445
Al-Musader Hospital 661277
The Islamic, Abdali 664166
Al-Ahli, Abdali 771013/7
Al-Basir, J. Ashrafib 751112
Army, Marka 891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarga Govt. Hospital (09)983320
Zarga National Hospital (09)900560

IBN SINIA HOSPITAL (09)986732
Al-Hussein Maternity Hospital (09)999990
IBRD:
Princess Beena Hospital (02)755555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)727275
The Al-Nadwa Hospital (02)747100
AQABA:
Shams Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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ARRIVALS
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:30 Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
07:30 Dhahran (RJ)
08:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:15 Amman (RJ)
09:45 Mecca, Dubai (RJ)
10:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

DEPARTURES
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
07:00 Amman (RJ)
08:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:30 Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)
11:30 Paris, Brussels (RJ)
11:30 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:45 London (RJ)
13:30 Cairo (RJ)
14:30 Jeddah (RJ)
15:30 Damascus (RJ)
16:30 Aden (RJ)
17:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
22:00 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)
16:45 Rome (AZ)
19:50 Beirut (ME)
23:30 Bucharest (RO)

MARKET PRICE
Upper/lower price in JLS
Apple (red) 10
Banana (Mukammal) 70
Banana (small) 60
Beans 20
Cabbage 10
Carrot 10
Cauliflower 10
Cucumber (large) 10
Cucumber (small) 10
Eggplant 10
Garlic 10
Grapefruit 10
Lemon 10
Marrow (large) 10
Marrow (small) 10
Onion (dry) 10
Orange 10
Pepper (hot) 10
Pepper (sweet) 10
Potato 10
Tomato 10
Fig 10
Guava 10
Spinach 10
Mint 10
Green Olive 10

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Tel. 773111-19	
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:30 Michael Vaillant	
19:00 La Famille Rasoum	
19:40 News in French	
19:50 Documentary	
19:50 News in Hebrew	
20:30 News in Arabic	
20:30 Golden Girls	
21:10 Mafrot	
22:00 News in English	
22:30	
Feature Film: "Cassanova Brown"	
PRAYER TIMES	
06:51 Fajr	
06:12 Sunrise (Sunrise)	
11:24 Dhuhr	
14:12 Asr	
16:36 Maghrib	
17:57 Isha	
CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swatish, Tel. 810740	
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 63785	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637460	
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Teressanta Church Tel. 623366	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541	
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 77261	
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751	
Armenian International Church Tel. 68326	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932	
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691	
Church of the Redeemer Tel. 638526	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology	
A depression over the Mediterranean accompanied by a cold front will affect Jordan in the evening. Therefore clouds will increase gradually and rain will fall in the northern parts extending gradually to the other parts of the Kingdom. Winds will be westerly moderating to fresh. In Aqaba winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.	
Min./Max. temp. Amman 05/16	

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Aqaba	11 / 22	Aqaba pharmacy	(—)	Aldabi Telephone Repairs	661101	Ibn Sina Hospital	(09)986732
Deserts	03 / 17	ZARQA:		Jordan Television	773111	Al Hilman Modern Hospital	(09)990090
Jordan Valley	13 / 21	Dr. Radwan Yonuz	(—)	Radijo Jordan	774111	IBRD:	
		Khalifah pharmacy	965417	Water Authority	680100	Private Basmah Hospital	(02)275535
				Jordan Electricity Authority	815615	Greek Catholic Hospital	(02)272725
Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 15, Aqaba 21. Humidity readings: Amman 54 per cent, Aqaba 51 per cent.				Electric Power		Ibn Al Nafies Hospital	(02)477200
				Convey	636381	AQABA:	
				RJ Flight Information	08-33200	Princess Haya Hospital	(03)314111
				Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	08-53280		

Home News

Health minister defends Jordan's record on AIDS

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is not much more than a major AIDS country, Health Minister Aref Bataineh said Monday.

Every day a message marking the World AIDS Day, the minister said, is that the total number of people who are registered HIV positive in Jordan now stands at 24. Fifty-four of these major victims resulted from blood transfusions conducted abroad and the number of deaths from the disease is 29, he said.

Bataineh said that the Jordanian Health Organisation (JHO) last April registered 1,000 AIDS cases in 164 countries, and reported a total of 10 persons who have so far contracted the disease worldwide.

The minister's statement followed an announcement last week that it was gearing up for a long-term public awareness campaign to educate Jordanians about AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). The decision and initial steps were announced at a meeting held to formulate an education programme targeted at the general public to raise and improve their knowledge of the fatal disease.

The ministry said that the campaign, which starts Tuesday, is Jordan's direct involvement in the fight against the disease. Meanwhile, the Director General of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), William Draper, issued



PREMIER MEETS FAISAL AL HUSSEINI: Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Monday received Chairman of the Palestinian Steering Committee Faisal Al Hussein and deputy head of the Palestinian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace talks Sa'eb Erekat. Sharif Zeid reviewed with Mr. Hussein and Dr. Erekat the outcome of the peace talks and the Jordanian-Palestinian coordination to achieve a comprehensive settlement and a lasting peace. They also discussed means of capitalising on the Jeddah extraordinary meeting of foreign ministers of Islamic countries which will be held Tuesday to exchange views and discuss the latest developments of the peace process. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber.

Romanians mark National Day

By Ica Wahbeh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Romania's National Day, is marked Tuesday in remembrance of Transylvania's return to the country in 1918 from the Austro-Hungarian occupation.

Unity had always been a dream for Romanians. Throughout history, this Balkan country has been victim of powerful countries in the region who have persisted in its secession. The Trianon Treaty, of 1918, legalised the union of Transylvania and Romania, fulfilling centuries-old aspirations.

Since Dec. 1918 many events took place in the course of Romanian history. It passed through another world war, saw communists come to power, deposed a dictator and is finally set on a democratic course.

At a press conference Sunday, the Romanian ambassador Anton Pascule pointed to similarities between Jordan and Romania, "You and we are both children on the path of democracy. But I am convinced that Jordan, under the wise leadership of King Hussein, and Romania, under the new government, will continue on the democratic way."

After a review of Romanian history, the ambassador talked about the special relationship with Jordan, which goes back, at ambassadorial level, to 1965.

In 1968, the two countries signed a trade and cooperation agreement, still valid, and reinforced by subsequent treaties which provided for economic cooperation. The 1989 political changes in Romania, which set the pace to a market economy, have created conditions conducive to economical, political and cultural exchange, said the ambassador.

Visits by the two countries' foreign ministers in 1991 and 1992 finalised two more treaties between Jordan and Romania, providing for encouragement and protection of investment and for cultural exchange.

Jordanian firms operating in Romania now stand at 812, having opened the possibility to diversify the commercial exchange between the two countries. From the traditional meat and live animals in exchange of phosphates, the goods swapped now

Tarawneh, Zaben pull out of House speakership election

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Neither controversy nor political discourse is expected to highlight the election of the Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament which takes place Tuesday at the opening of the last ordinary session of the 11th Parliament.

After the withdrawal of two of the four candidates running for the speakership post, the legislature was left with incumbent speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat and Zarka Deputy Abdul Baqi Gammo vying for the most prestigious and influential position the Lower House has to offer.

Three of the five Lower House political groupings failed earlier last week to unite behind a single candidate to challenge the incumbent speaker, Mr. Arabiyat. Subsequently Mohammad Faris Tarawneh and Mohammad Zaben of the Democratic and National blocs respectively pulled out of the race.

Mr. Gammo is expected to muster between 25-35 votes while Mr. Arabiyat is tipped to win the election which requires a simple majority.



Abdul Latif Arabiyat and Abdul Baqi Gammo: The two remaining candidates



public addresses, deputies who sit in the Cabinet of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, appear to continue their support for the current speaker.

"Of the members of the Constitutional Bloc, it was those who lobbied for a vote in favour of Mr. Arabiyat," said Mohammad Abu Oteim of the Constitutional Bloc. While some members of the bloc said they would vote in favour of Mr. Gammo, Mr. Abu Oteim said he believed that all 15 members of his bloc would vote for Mr. Arabiyat.

While last minute alliances or tactics are still possible, the six-member Independent Islamic Bloc is expected to vote in favour of Mr. Gammo. The 16-member National bloc is expected to give almost an equal number of votes to Mr. Gammo and Mr. Arabiyat.

Many observers believe that the Brotherhood will receive a popular boost in election booths across the country if Mr. Arabiyat is re-elected. "It will be significant that the Brotherhood is powerful and people vote for the powerful," said one leftist member of Parliament.

NHF president opens symposium on child handicaps

AMMAN (J.T.) — Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) President M. Mufti Monday morning opened a symposium on monitoring and preventing common physical and mental problems in childhood organised by the NHF Institute for Child Health Development (ICHD).

Twenty-eight medical doctors and nurses from various public and private health institutions will attend lectures on a number of health and medical topics relating to examining newly-born children, dental care, health education and teaching children in ear-ear on how to cope with certain pressures.

In her opening speech, Mrs. Mufti emphasized the NHF philosophy drawing on comprehensive and integrated development, especially with respect to health services extended to children. Reiterating the Foundation's keen interest in extending its expertise in early childhood health care to other institutions working in this area, the NHF President hoped that child health and development units, similar to the ICHD, would be established in conjunction with hospitals and kindergartens to help reduce physical disabilities and mental disorders among children in Jordan.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King sends cable to Romania
AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a cable to Romanian President Ion Iliescu, congratulating him on his country's national day, and wishing him continued good health and happiness and the Romanian people further progress and prosperity.

King honours poet Jawahiri
AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein received the renowned Arab poet Mohammad Mahdi Al Jawahiri, who arrived in Amman Sunday. The King conferred upon Mr. Jawahiri Jordan's independence medal of the First Order in appreciation of his distinguished contribution to the modern Arab literature. Mr. Jawahiri thanked King Hussein for the attention and hospitality accorded to him in Jordan and praised the unique standard the cultural and literary movement in Jordan has reached.

Italians to host ancient architecture course
AMMAN (J.T.) — Within the Italian-Jordanian Cooperation Project "Restoration of the Monument of Jerash" on Monday a series of training courses will start in the field of "Science of Cultural Heritage".

The courses will be organized by the "Centro Scavi di Torino" in the premises in Amman, next to the Italian Hospital.

The scheduled courses will extend until June 1993 and include: 1) Architectural Photography; 2) Remote Sensing for Archaeology; 3) History of Ancient Architecture.

The courses will be addressed to staff of the Jordanian Department of Antiquities and graduated students of the University of Jordan in Amman.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition by renowned Iraqi artist Shaker Hassan Al Saeed at the Jordan Gallery of Fine Arts.
- Exhibition of paintings by Syrian artist Hamed Chantout at Balaad Art Gallery.
- Exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artists Salim Abbas and Hassan Eld Alwan at Alfa Art Gallery.
- Exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artists Salim Abbas and Hassan Eld Alwan at Alfa Art Gallery.

Jordan Educational Company ... OFFTEC towards the future

The Jordan Educational Company was born to the Palestine Educational Company nearly 50 years ago. The mother company had come to life in Jerusalem in 1910. In no time, it became the leader in its field. Beside books, its shelves strained under a wide variety of stationary articles, fountain pens and typewriters. It became known as the company that introduced the first typewriter to the country and introduced the country to typewriters.

Along the years, the company branched out to Haifa, Jaffa, Cairo, Alexandria, Baghdad, Beirut and in 1947 to Amman where the Jordan Educational Company was set up. Soon, the new company gained the confidence of its clients.

The Jordan Educational Company decided to concentrate on office equipment and mechanisation and began introducing 'high tech' systems to a group of select organisations. It continued to offer its meticulous service to its clientele, becoming the uncontested leader in its field.

The company can boast that some of its customers today have been with the mother company for about a century. Not many can make this statement, but the Jordan Educational Company can and it is understandably proud.

Seeking a modernised image while preserving its decades-old traditions and name, the Jordan Educational Company chose for itself a new trade name ... "OFFTEC." OFFTEC must now strive to serve the new generation of highly-trained businessmen with the vigour and competence that are the hall-mark of its legacy of excellence.

OFFTEC's own new generation of professional managers and staff must plan and build for the future to keep the company's hard-earned reputation and leadership and to remain a pillar of strength and support for the modern businessman.

For these reasons and more, OFFTEC, which has always kept pace with all advances and developments in the field of office automation, is now working its way to the ultimate dream of every businessman: the paperless office.

Bataineh discusses sale of Madaba hospital

MADABA (Petra) — Health Minister Aref Bataineh Monday inspected health centres in Thiban sub-district and Al Nadim Hospital in Madaba.

Dr. Bataineh was briefed by health officials in the centres on the conditions of preventive services offered to citizens, and the health needs of the sub-district. In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, following his tour, Dr. Bataineh said his tour was aimed at getting first hand information on health services provided to citizens in Thiban sub-district. He voiced satisfaction with the level of services offered by these centres, and disclosed the ministry's intention to open new health centres in residential gatherings where the need is great.

The rally was organised at the

Seminar voices support for Palestinians

AMMAN (J.T.) — Speakers at a rally organised in Amman to voice support for the Palestinian people Monday appealed to the world community to end Israel's occupation of Arab lands in implementation of United Nations resolutions and in a bid to free Palestinians from their economic and social sufferings under Israeli rule.

One can not possibly imagine a way to end the socio-economic problems facing Palestinians under Israeli rule without giving them full independence on their own soil, said Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Executive Secretary Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jabbar in a key address at the opening session.

Dr. Abdul Jabbar outlined the sufferings of the Palestinians, the rise in the rate of unemployment resulting from Israel's arbitrary actions and the deteriorating economic conditions under Israeli rule.

The rally was organised at the

outlined the Palestinian economic structure, referring to the unemployment and the volume of the work force and presenting recommendations for solutions.

Referring to Israel's hegemony over the Palestinian economy, Dr. Abu Shukur said that such policy has resulted in the destruction of the Palestinian economic infrastructure. But he noted that with the advent of the intifada, the Palestinians are now starting to take matters into their own hands. He said that the Palestinians are reducing their reliance on Israeli goods and people go to work in the Israeli factories. Since 1987 the volume of Arab workers working within the occupied territories has now increased to 63.7 per cent, up from 60.7 per cent while Arab workers employed in Israel dropped.

Unemployment in the occupied Arab lands is linked to occupation, and would end with the termination of Israel's presence in the occupied territories, Dr. Abu Shukur added.

Jordan, Lebanon electric company sign deal

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Company for Investment in Electrical Industries and the Lebanese Metallic Electric Company Sunday signed an agreement for the establishment of a JD 2.2 million company for manufacturing electric equipment, including generators and electric distribution panels.

The agreement was signed for the Jordan Electric company by its chairman of the board of directors Issam Budeir and the

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HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AQABA RAILWAY CORPORATION INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION OF PREQUALIFICATION DATA

The Aqaba Railway Corporation invites submission of prequalification data from interested international engineering consultants in joint ventures with Jordanian Consultant Engineering firms who can qualify, through experience with projects of similar type of magnitude, for the study and design of a railway link from Shidiya Mines to the existing railway at Batn El Ghoul.

The Jordanian consultant must be listed as a first class company by the Jordanian Engineers Association.

The consultants duties are, but not limited to, the following:

- Review all previous studies.
- Prepare bankable documents.
- Prepare design report.
- Prepare final design.
- Provide services during tender Evaluation.
- Provide supervision services during construction.

It will not be acceptable for any joint venture to submit, or to participate in more than one application, and any application submitted in violation of this rule will be rejected.

Prequalification questionnaire and additional information may be obtained from Aqaba Railway Corporation main office in Ma'an or Amman office. The complete questionnaire (in English) and any additional information should be submitted not later than 30 days after the publication of this notice to:

The Director General
Aqaba Railway Corporation
P.O. Box 50
Ma'an, Jordan
Fax: Tel: Ma'an 41361
Fax: Tel: Amman 897494

Envelope should be titled as follows:
"Prequalification for Engineering Services for Shidiya Railway Link."

J. Krishan
Director General

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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Jordan Press Foundation,

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Unprecedented, yet welcome U.N. move

THE INTERNATIONAL community is finally moving fast in the direction of deploying armed forces to ensure the distribution of badly needed foods and medicines in war-torn Somalia. A United Nations acceptance of the U.S. offer to dispatch 30,000 soldiers to police the distribution of relief supplies to starving Somalis, would mark a first ever resort to armed intervention for humanitarian reasons.

This breaking of new grounds in international law on humanitarian concerns is a most welcomed step that needs to be formally legalised and promoted. What precipitated this unusual international armed action is the more than the two-year old armed strife in Somalia that took the lives of more than 300,000 Somalis and exposed nearly two million more to starvation and related diseases. The horrific images of the multitudes of dying Somalis must have jolted the international decision to deploy troops to protect relief workers and agencies from the militias of the two principle warlords, Ali Mahdi and Mohammad Farah Aidid, frantically fighting one another to seize control of central authority in the country in the wake of the ouster of former Somali leader Mohammad Siad Barre two years ago.

Against this backdrop, the U.S. initiative needs to be followed by other countries able to contribute their military resources for humanitarian causes. Hopefully, this step can be institutionalised not only for humanitarian purposes but also for the purposes of promoting basic human rights and the prevention of grave and systematic violations of human rights worldwide.

There is already an attempt in place in Bosnia and Croatia to use troops to protect the shipment of relief supplies to the peoples of these two new republics. Admittedly, the deployment of U.N. troops for humanitarian purposes in the former Yugoslavia has yet to be conducted in a more forceful manner, commensurate with the aims and objectives of this humanitarian exercise.

Much worse, however, is the unwillingness of the U.N. system to deploy U.N. troops to prevent the daily atrocities that occur there principally at the hands of the Serbs.

Given the fact that the comity of nations interventions in Bosnia and Croatia is still basically a maiden attempt to apply U.N. force more purposely and effectively, there is every hope that the lessons to be drawn from these two areas in the world could serve as a platform for launching a more determined and institutionalised plan of action by the international community to combat crimes against humanity as well as famine, wherever and whenever they occur.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE INTERNATIONAL day for solidarity with the Palestinian people means for Jordan more mere solidarity because Jordanians feel they are part of the Palestinian and Arab rights, said Al Rai daily. The Jordanians and the Palestinians are in the same boat and they both face the same challenges with steadfastness, said the daily. It is farical on the part of the western nations, which support the Israelis in their occupation of Arab land, to declare their solidarity with the Palestinians because they are strengthening the hand committing atrocities in occupied Palestine, said the daily. Likewise, the Kuwaitis who have accused so much sufferings and tragedies to the Palestinians are the same like the Israelis in their hostility towards the Palestinian people, said the daily. It said that the American and the British are not any better as they adopt double standard policies and are hypocritical in their dealings with the Arab World; they are responsible for the tragedy that befell the Palestinian people and the perpetration of Israeli occupation of Arab land. The paper said that the Jordanian people have the honour to be fighting in the same trench with the Palestinians in the face of the enemies of the Arab World, well assured of the final triumph of right and justice. It said that neither the Palestinians nor the Jordanians are in need of the hypocritical attitudes of those who continue to cause suffering for the Palestinians or who have colluded with others in a genocide against the Iraqi people.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour daily criticised authorities responsible for the water situation and water projects in Jordan. There is great urgency for intensified efforts to build dams to collect the rain water that is being lost every year, especially in the semi-arid regions, said Mohammad Daoud. It seems that the plans for building dams are progressing at a very slow pace and this can be by no means help the country face the growing demand for water in the coming years, the writer said. He said the delay in building dams could be attributed to lack of financial resources or ill-planning, but these should by no means be allowed to stand in the way of vital projects for the country's well-being, he added. The writer said it is regrettable to see that those responsible for plans and implementation of projects have failed, to date, to conduct a proper survey of the Jordanian badia region where earth dams could be built to collect water. He called on the responsible authorities to finalise survey plans and conduct speedy studies on areas where the dams are to be built, especially where the water is most needed for agriculture. The writer said the dams that exist in Jordan are very useful, but they are far below the level required to collect most of the rain water that is currently being lost.

The View from Fourth Circle

Breaking the cycle of anti-semitism

WITH the exception of condemning the attacks and sieges against the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Arab and Islamic world has kept rather quiet about the rise of militant rightwing groups in Europe. The various supernaturalists, racists, neo-Nazis and neo-fascists who are gaining strength in Europe have directed their hate and their attacks largely against Muslims, Turks, Arabs, Jews and, to a lesser extent, against African and East European refugees and asylum-seekers.

The Arab/Islamic world has many good reasons to speak out forcefully against the rise of European racism and anti-semitism, seeing as how we probably have the most to lose from this ugly political trend. Some people in this region see anti-Jewish acts in Europe as a confirmation of the age-old belief that Jews are arrogant troublemakers and therefore they bring about the anti-Jewish sentiments we see today. This is a terribly shortsighted attitude that is also quite racist and immoral in its own right.

As the world gropes for a new geo-strategic arrangement and a new fusion of morality into politics and diplomacy, it would be appropriate today for the Arab/Islamic world to take the lead in condemning the racist, anti-semitic, anti-Islamic, and xenophobic political currents that are rising again in Europe as they have done intermittently for the last half a millennium. We should fight racism and anti-semitism for two reasons, one based on principles and the other based on practicalities.

We should fight racism and anti-semitism: a) because these are immoral and unjust ideologies that offend our Arab/Islamic heritage and ethics and run counter to the Muslim, Christian and Jewish teachings that define our single semitic family; and, b) because we are the ultimate victims of anti-Jewish, anti-Arab, and anti-Islamic sentiments that have been allowed to proliferate in North America, Western Europe and Russia in the last several centuries.

The Jewish people have suffered grievously from anti-Jewish sentiment in the West. Yet, Judaism's modern Zionist vanguard exploited anti-Jewish phenomena to build a case for establishing a Jewish/Israeli state in Palestine, and then for maintaining it as an aggressive and often pre-emptively predatory military fortress in the region. Zionism has even convinced the West that semitism equals Judaism, and that anti-semitism means only anti-Jewish action.

The Arab/Islamic world, meanwhile, has remained largely silent, passive, and acquiescent in this wholesale global hijacking of our most basic and primordial identity as semites (the term semites was developed by 18th century Western scholars to describe the ancient peoples of the Levant and the Fertile Crescent, such as Arabs, Arameans, Assyrians, Babylonians, Canaanites, Hebrews, and Phoenicians. The term derives from the peoples who are said to be descended from Shem, one of the sons of Noah).

In fact, it is probably appropriate to talk of "anti-semitism" and anti-Jewish hatred in the same breath, because the acts of violence and ethno-racism against Jews ultimately impact negatively on the rest of the semitic family, namely Arab Muslims, Christians and Jews. Jews are the first to suffer from anti-Jewish/anti-semitic racism in Europe, but we are the second to suffer, for the Jewish/Zionist reaction to discrimination and death in Europe has been to form a Jewish state in Palestine, at the expense of Arab national rights.

Historians and others will long argue whether the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine was part and parcel of a broader Western plan to divide the Arab World into smaller entities that would be easier to maintain within the Western sphere of influence. Israelis become very irritated when we say that their

Jewish presence in Palestine as a sovereign, partially racist, theocratically exclusivist Jewish state is an intrusion into the modern political demography of the region, and an aberration in terms of the cultural and political history of the region. This Israeli reality, however, explains many of the wider semitic sufferings that still pertain today.

The dominant historical trend in the Middle East during the last, oh, five thousand years, or ever since the birth of religions, has seen the region characterised by a single dominant religion that coexists peacefully with minority groups. Since the advent of Christianity and Islam as the two consecutively majority religions of this region during the last 1700 years, Jews, Christians and assorted other religious minorities have almost always lived with adequate safeguards of their personal freedoms and their right to practice their religion. The few exceptions, in the past as today, serve only to confirm the dominant reality of cultural and religious pluralism and coexistence.

When one group upsets this historical truth, and tries to assert itself at the expense of others — such as Jews/Zionists did in Palestine during the past century — the whole political-demographic equilibrium of the region is distorted. To save their people in Europe, Jewish Zionists sought to create a Jewish state in Palestine, which they achieved in part by depicting the Arabs/Muslims as ignorant, backward, and often violent people without national rights. They succeeded, and we have been paying the consequences ever since in the form of instability, militarism, disparities and sustained violence on a regional scale that is perhaps unprecedented in history.

We pay the secondary price for anti-Jewish/anti-semitism in three ways. The first is the direct loss of land and rights to the Zionist invasion, occupation and colonisation of Palestine, which the West sees as acceptable compensation for Western anti-Jewish/anti-semitism and the agony of the Holocaust. Because the Jews suffered at the hands of the Christian West in the past, the West cleanses its conscience today by allowing the predominantly Muslim Middle East to suffer at the hands of the Zionists/Israelis. This process continues today, as Jews continue to emigrate to Israel from Russia, Ethiopia, Eastern Europe, and other parts of the world where Jews feel their lives are either not safe or not comfortable because of anti-Jewish/anti-semitism. Saving the Jewish component of the semitic family is aggravating the problems of the other, far larger Muslim/Christian component of the same family.

The second price we pay for anti-semitism is the cumulative negative impact of the creation of Israel on the Arab/Islamic Middle East, in terms of our fragmentation, militarism, and general national incoherence (what other word is there for oil-rich Arab states in the Gulf that send their ambassadors' daughters to lie to the U.S. Congress, or that send more money to save the animals in the London Zoo than to save humans in other Arab countries?).

The third price we pay is to bear the burden of the residual, post-Holocaust legacy of Israel as a country of superior morality that continues to be owed a humanistic debt by the West and, correspondingly, of the Arabs/Muslims as people of slightly lesser morality that must remain weaker than, if not subservient and obsequious to, the moral-military-political-theological might of Israel. The perpetual Western compensation for the West's anti-Jewish/anti-semitism of the past, it seems, is the perpetual subjugation and supplication of the Arabs/Muslims.

Therefore, today we see the West determined to preserve Israel

as the single strongest military power in this region, while various Arab/Islamic states the opportunity to develop in ballistic or other non-conventional weapons of mass death (forget, for the moment, whether we need or should have these terrible weapons; of course, we would be a better without them, but the fact is the West and Israel do not want have them, and they are working overtime to make sure wishes are implemented).

In other words, what started out in medieval Europe Russia as a predominantly anti-Jewish brand of anti-semitism, now expanded into a more virulent and violent form of anti-Islamic and anti-Jewish anti-semitism.

It is ironic and cruel, but a fact nevertheless, that the semitic suffering has been completed. The semitic, whether Christians, Muslims or Jews, now suffer together a brand of comprehensive anti-semitism that corresponds to true historical legacy of their all-inclusive semitic name. We joined as one family by our common ancestry, and we are joined again by our common victimisation at the hands of the European and other Western racists. It is poignant, the sicken to look at Europe and to see the similar desecration of Jewish cemeteries and the killing of Turkish Moroccan women, while Arabs and Israelis die at each other's hands in Palestine, Israel, Lebanon and other tortured lands.

It is time for the political elite in the Arab/Islamic world to come to terms with this fact, and to use it politically in our confrontation with those forces in the West, in Israel, and Arab World who would like to maintain the legacy of pain, suffering and racist denial. It is also time for Jews/Israelis/Zionists to recognize the full consequences of their narrow focus on own self-interest. They cannot realistically expect to at genuine, long-term security by relying on a combinatorial Western guilt/sympathy and Jewish arsenals that have formed their wider pan-semitic home into a paradigm of disparity, and distortion, a proving ground for ethno-militarism, and a cauldron of Christian-Muslim-Jewish, via fanaticism, and hate.

Abraham is probably hopelessly disappointed in his chi Moses must be turning over in his grave, and Shem is pre trying to emigrate to another world. But we are still here, with the consequences of our imperfect world. It would be and proper today for the Arab/Islamic world to take the condemning the rising tide of European racism and xenophobic anti-semitism. Some people in our midst will claim this is a weakness, while I would suggest that it is a sign of strength, should do this in order to limit the damage that we will suffer as anti-semitism's second favourite victims, to give our spiritualism and morality, and to reverse the degenerate that has afflicted the semitic family in the last century.

This could also send to Jews/Israelis a powerful signal: willingness and our commitment to live together as equals; answerable only to the single law of our common God. I think of few other actions that would adequately reflect grandeur and self-confidence of our rich semitic heritage, faith in our current negotiating posture with Israel, and seriousness about building a better future by more accurately identifying the mistakes and shortcomings of the past. We could hang around, blame others, complain about the Jewish conspiracies, and take bets on which Arab staff disintegrate next. The choice, like the future, is in our hands.

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Prince Hassan: Flexibility, compromise and the art of accommodation are of value in the search for peace

Following is an address by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the Churchill Memorial Lecture delivered to the English Speaking Union, London, on Nov. 26, 1992.

Lord Mayor, Lord Pym, lords, ladies and gentlemen,

I feel it to be a special privilege to have been invited to deliver this address to the English Speaking Union which commemorates the name and memory of Winston Churchill. As a Hashemite, the mention of Winston Churchill is evocative for me, as many members of my family had to deal and negotiate directly with him. As a young school boy at his alma mater, Harrow, I had a glimpse of the old man and conducted a brief, but memorable conversation with him. Churchill played a central role in the making and development of Anglo-Arab relations, which have developed in three dimensions. They run deep and long and wide, but they have not always run smoothly or without controversy. Our perspectives and expectations have converged and diverged, but the bond of friendship and basic understanding has remained healthy and vibrant. The community of interests and shared values which we have evolved has been its distinguishing mark, and has enabled it to stand the test of time.

The geo-strategic location of the Arab World, endowed with abundant natural resources of energy, made its relationship with Britain an important factor in imperial policy, with a special impact on European rivalries and power politics. Over a period of more than 150 years hardly a decision taken by a British government regarding imperial administration in India and Australasia, or Africa and the Mediterranean, had no impact on the Arab World. British policies and attitudes have affected the course of history in our part of the world, and determined the status of the Arab countries.

British statesmen, from Palmerston and Disraeli to Curzon and Churchill, and colonial administrators, from Cromer in Cairo to COX in Baghdad, Samuel in Jerusalem, Kirkbride in Amman, Spears in Beirut, and Luce and Belgrave in the Gulf, have all left their mark on the countries in which they served. Hovering above them all is the man who

has been unkindly dubbed as "a prince of our disorder," T.E. Lawrence. The contribution of other English-speaking countries, particularly the United States under the presidency of Woodrow Wilson, must not be overlooked. It was Wilson's 14 point programme which established the right to national self-determination and led to the creation of the modern sovereign states.

Nonetheless, it was the role of Britain which was instrumental in the formation of the modern Arab World. Its actions at certain junctures of our recent history made a significant difference to the outcome; a constant influence that we have never been able to evade. The Treaty of London in 1840 halted the destruction of the Ottoman Empire by the Egyptians under the command of Ibrahim Pasha. The entente cordiale in 1904 introduced the element of divided zones of influence between Britain and France.

The zonal approach became the hallmark of the 1916 Sykes-Picot agreement between the two European powers in their division of the Arab countries. However, a few months earlier a coalition of Arab nationalist groups and Muslim reformers, believing in the sanctity and integrity of the twin notions of Islam and Arabism, converged on the Hashemite Sharif Hussein of Mecca, my great grandfather, to lead the Arab renaissance movement towards liberation and independence. Seeking allies for their uprising, it was my grandfather, Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, who initiated what has become known as the Hussein-MacMahon correspondence in 1915. The choice of the sharif, a direct descendant of the Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) and guardian of Islam's holiest shrines in Mecca and Medina, was significant for the legitimisation of the Arab revolt of 1916. The issues set out in the correspondence were complicated by other British undertakings to third parties like the French and Zionist organisations, made under the Sykes-Picot agreement and the Balfour Declaration of 1917 respectively.

My sense of history is directly related to these monumental events, as well as to the long history of the Arab people and the role they have played in the development and evolution of Islamic civilisation. The long tradition of my family renders

any supposed dichotomy between Islam and Arabism both irrelevant and meaningless. In common with other Arab leaders, when World War I ended, we had interests to protect and demands to be fulfilled. The outcome of the peace conference in 1919 was not satisfactory. Arab opposition to the mandate system led Winston Churchill, as colonial secretary, to call the Cairo Conference in 1921 to determine the future of the liberated territories of the Arab World. The modern history of Jordan was influenced by decisions taken at the conference.

Contrary to common error, that conference did not "create" Jordan; what it did was to clarify and to adjust certain situations and developments which had taken place at the end of World War I. These reflected an ambiguity in agreements and commitments entered into by British governments at various stages in that war with some of its partners, including the Arabs under leadership of my forebears.

The task which the colonial secretary set himself at Cairo was to reconcile commitments to Britain's French and Arab allies, and to the emerging Zionist movement which, to use a diplomatic word, were incompatible, but which could more accurately be described as contradictory. Even the British talent for unravelling complicated situations did not enable Mr. Churchill to resolve the contradictions, or to reconcile the irreconcilable. What the Cairo Conference did achieve was the establishment of a framework for regional arrangements in the Arab Peninsula which, with one notable exception, has remained intact until the present day. The new states, born after the demise of the Ottoman Empire, are still all there; but in only one of them does the regime whose legitimacy was confirmed by the Cairo Conference continue to survive and to function. That is the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

In Jordan, therefore, there is a historical continuity absent in other states in the area in which revolutions and coups d'etat have altered both the bases of political legitimacy and the structure of society. We have had no political or social revolutions, and we are happy to shelter on our soil the victims of violent change among our neighbours. This continuity, which reflects a climate of stabil-

ity rare in our region, justifies, we believe, our claim to represent an authentic modern version of the ideals and objectives which inspired the proclamation of the Arab revolt by Sherif Hussein and other Arab leaders of the time.

To appreciate the significance of that bold step it is important to understand the circumstances in which it was made. It was not a decision taken, as some have insinuated, in order to join what would be the winning side at the end of the war. In fact, when the first contacts with the British authorities were initiated by a representative of the sharif, the outcome of the war was not at all certain. The decision was taken because by 1914, and even before, it had become clear that the two constituent elements of the Ottoman Empire — Turkish and Arab — were in the process of separating from each other. That process was accelerated by the war; and the end of the empire pressured each wing to establish its own national identity within what they considered to be their historical and rightful national fatherland, or, if I may be permitted before my distinguished audience to use a more evocative word in the French language, their "patrie".

The Arabian Peninsula, from Syria and Iraq in the north to Yemen and Oman in the south, bounded by the seas of the Mediterranean, the Gulf, and the Arabian Ocean, constitutes the historic and natural homeland of the Arab peoples. The aim of the Arab revolt was to establish an Arab state within the frontiers of that homeland, taking into account all the elements of diversity which existed within the region, but preserving a unity of administration, a social cohesion, and a freedom of movement for people and commerce which had been a feature of Ottoman rule. The story of how that vision of an United Arabia was frustrated is now well-known and documented, and this is not the appropriate occasion to retrace the various stages of its sad development, or to reexamine decisions and actions taken for one reason or another which we believe to have been unjust. What has happened has happened, and we have now to deal with the consequences. To overcome the difficulties which the political fragmentation of our old world created; to revivify the aspira-

tions of our peoples for a closer association of their political, economic and social lives; and to take into account the new political and demographic facts which have come into existence in the last seventy years.

One of the consequences of the post-war division of the Arabian Peninsula was to change the direction of the Arabs' cultural life. At the time of the Arab revolt the languages of an educated Arab gentleman of the governing class were Turkish and Arabic. He might, had he attended one of the foreign schools spread throughout the region, have also spoken French, German or Russian; but the opportunities for learning English were few. The victory of the allies, and the collapse of the Ottoman, German, Austro-Hungarian, and Russian empires, made English and French the dominant foreign languages taught and used in the Arab states and territories of the peninsula, divided into spheres of interest and control between Great Britain and France. While children attending school in Lebanon and Syria might learn that their ancestors were Gauls, students in Palestine, Jordan and Iraq might discover that the British Empire was coloured red on the map. In Beirut and Damascus they recited Racine; in Jerusalem, Amman and Baghdad they struggled with Julius Caesar and a Tale of two Cities. Arabic remained the language of our daily life, and of our classical education and religious instruction, but the culture of the modern world was filtered to us through the medium of English and French.

His Majesty King Hussein and I were the fortunate beneficiaries of an education in England. We shared with Winston Churchill the experience of Harrow on the Hill; at Sandhurst my brother and other members of my family learnt to understand, but fortunately, and especially for the ladies among them, not to acquire the vocabulary and intonations of the parade-ground. These great institutions, as well as Oxford in my own case, prepared us for the infinitely more difficult schooling of Arab politics.

It is not easy to accommodate or to reconcile within oneself two very different languages and cultures. It is easy, on the other hand, to find oneself saying in one language something which in

another language might mean something else. I believe of misunderstanding between peoples of different languages are great, and ways are bridged by translators. This is perhaps what at made understanding between English-speaking and the worlds difficult.

One of the features of cultures which the speaking peoples and have in common is their rich heritage of poetry. The paradoxical explanation of the predominant role of poetry and commerce has played histories: the dreariness, bers, figures, and trade is perhaps what has induced to seek the consolation of imagery and the magic of whereas agricultural societies their pleasure in the poetic cycle of nature. But English-speaking people duality of the poetic and commercial has been replaced by another dimension concepts and the language and political discourse, their great contribution world.

The concepts of the rule of constitutionalism, of sensitive government, peaceful passage of power, the responsibility of the towards the ruled, all of define the true meaning of cracy, have been foreign to the English language planted in British India and left behind as a leg peoples whom they ruled. In India and Pakistan the cy had time enough to deep roots. The exposure Arab peoples, on the other to the English language the spirit of British India has been comparatively still too early to know graft of this English legacy the Arab political culture taken. There are factors may work against the such implantation of the graft of root-stock of our national ty. There are other cultural ences and values, other traditions which rival or displace yours; and, then deep-rooted resentments real grievances which must taken into account, and if they are not to destroy the graft and the root-stock.

We in Jordan view it as

(Continued on page 5)

'Flexibility and compromise of value in the search for peace'

and will never, accept the loss of their right to national self-determination.

The establishment of two political entities in one small territory demands a resort to a further element in British tradition: The art of accommodation; of finding space where it is limited; of making room for someone else; of adjusting one's views and actions to those of another in order to make possible peaceful co-existence instead of permanent antagonism. The search for accommodation between Israelis and Palestinians is thus an essential part of the peace process, in which Jordan plays a crucial role. Jordanians, Palestinians, and Israelis live together in a shared space: we live under the same sky, the same sun and moon; when it rains, it rains on all of us, and when it fails we all go thirsty; and water runs upon and beneath our space without regard to man-made frontiers.

The presence on our Jordanian territory of the major component of the Palestinian displaced and dispossessed population demands an urgent accommodation not only with Israel but also with the region as a whole, and indeed with the international community, whose initiative in the partition of Palestine lies at the root of our problems. It is tragic to witness in these days the repetition in Bosnia and Herzegovina of what befell the Palestinians in 1948, in 1967, in 1982 and 1991: the ejection of civilians from their towns and villages by force or through fear; the expropriation of homes and lands; the political expulsion of a whole community simply because of their sectarian, ethnic or national identity. The menacing rise of fascist tendencies in Europe poses a direct danger beyond Bosnia, and threatens to engulf six million European Muslims.

Jordan has been the principal, and for many the only possible haven for the displaced and the dispossessed Palestinians. By natural growth the population of Jordan would have been two million today: it is actually twice that figure. On three occasions our cities have received a sudden and unexpected influx of a quarter of a million souls, in conditions of war which strained the human and material resources of our country to the limit. The response of the international community has not been commensurate with its responsibilities. It is true that UNRWA, which was set up to provide work and relief for the dispossessed, has performed valiantly within the limits of its terms of reference and the restrictions of its budget. It is true that many British organisations and private individuals, some of whom may be represented among this audience, have laboured courageously to redress the errors and injustices of which they believe the Palestinians were victims. The time has come, however, when we should no longer think in terms of relief, but rather of retrieval. The transformation of refugees into citizens, the recovery of lost rights, the recuperation of wasted human resources, must be our principal preoccupation: not only for the Palestinians, but for all those millions who as we talk today are still scattered on the face of the earth, blown hither and thither, like chaff in the wind.

The achievement of this most urgent and difficult goal demands a joint effort between those governments and institutions in the Middle East which recognise the problems and accept their responsibilities, and the outside regional organisations which possess the means, and are prepared to be convinced and to act. Among these the closest to us in geography, the most related to our history, the most intimately aware of our problems, is the European Community.

Britain's membership of the community, and its long-standing involvement in and knowledge of the affairs of the Middle East, leads us to the reasonable expectation that Britain and other countries of the English-speaking world will play a leading role in the organisation of a "collective engagement" towards our region, and the resolution of its long-standing problems.

Almost 50 years ago, in his iron curtain speech, Winston Churchill called for a fraternal association of the English-speaking peoples, primarily the countries of the British Commonwealth and the United States. The outcome was an alliance between Europe and America, focussing on military security; whose chief instrument has been NATO. The end of the cold war and the collapse of the Soviet Union have banished the curtain, but international uncertainties persist. The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (including military arsenals), ethnic nationalism, and economic protectionism continue to threaten our world. The multilateral dimension of the present peace process provides a forum

for the countries and peoples of the Middle East to develop a common vision of peace, and to set in motion concrete measures to promote security. The economic talks can point the way to incentives for peace; while the talks on arms control can generate the confidence building measures vital to regional security.

Concerted action by the peoples of the English Speaking Union and the economic community will be of crucial importance in the establishment of a regional order of security and development, similar to that of the Helsinki process.

The existence in our region of millions of the displaced and the dispossessed, Palestinians and others, of a regional disparity of income which runs from one to twenty, of the division into sparsely-populated states with enormous resources and revenues, and densely populated states with few resources and feeble revenues — all these are factors that threaten the security of all countries in the area, and of the world in general, and demand a global approach to defuse the dangers that beset us all.

The simultaneous and parallel initiatives in the peace process have found their expression in the form of bilateral and multilateral negotiations. The inter-relationships between the problems which the two sets of negotiations are addressing, and the necessity of finding solutions on the two levels, offer a window of opportunity for the participants in the multilateral negotiations to play a vital role in the success of both.

Jordan's participation in the two levels of the peace process is predicated on the belief that the

successful resolution of the Arab-Israeli problem depends upon a coherent approach to what we call human resource development; and in the wider regional context on the predication that cooperation at the level of human beings, of resources, and of security is the key to progress and prosperity. We believe, for example, that whatever short-term arrangements might be made to end the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, and the unilateral control of Jerusalem, there will need to be other arrangements which will address the human problems shared by Arabs and Jews, which may take years to resolve. The imbalance between the standards of living of neighbouring communities; the disparity between capital investments and aid available; the need to arrive at an equitable distribution of water and other resources; the promotion of greater cultural and linguistic understanding; an active effort to eradicate the causes of grievance, and diminish feelings of bitterness and mutual fear — all this cannot be achieved within the same time-table as that which may be agreed on at the political and inter-state levels.

Many nations of the English Speaking Union are our partners in the multilateral negotiations held in Paris on Oct. 29-30, at which the proposal was made by the French delegation for the creation of a regional development fund which would make possible the transition from the accumulated tensions and passions created by many years of unresolved conflict to a climate in which our communities may learn to live together in peace. The proposal conforms to a previous

presentation by the Commission of the European Communities to the working group of the multilateral negotiators in Brussels last May. It is our hope that her majesty's government will support this initiative, and that all the governments and peoples of the English-speaking world will join in the effort to eliminate unhappy memories from the past, and to promote the values and the ideals which we hold dear and in common.

Our wish for the active involvement of such a concert of nations should not be looked upon as another plea for charity and hand-outs, but rather as a way of safeguarding the mutual interests of East and West, which are now more than ever threatened by the prolongation of old problems, and the proliferation of new ones. It would be unfortunate for everyone if the involvement of Europe in the affairs of the Middle East were to be limited to the protection of financial or commercial interests, or access to the sources of energy which lie within its borders. Common interests are the basis of Arab interdependence, and should also serve as the foundations of the partnership between the Arab World and the English-speaking world, as well as Europe.

This historical partnership has never been based solely upon material considerations, nor should it be allowed to decline to that level. It is our belief that the foundations of the partnership are sufficiently strong as to transcend such issues. It is in this spirit that we look forward to maintaining and strengthening the ties that exist between us, and facing together the challenges of peace.

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Stoichkov, Koeman score as Barcelona keep lead

MADRID (AP) — Bulgarian ace Hristo Stoichkov's 30th-minute goal for Barcelona unleashed a 5-0 slaughter of meek cross-town rival Espanol Sunday and allowed the two-year defending league champion stay atop of the table.

Meanwhile, Real Madrid was stretched to scrape a third goal to win 3-2 at home against Oviedo and stay in second place, a point behind Barcelona in the 20-team division.

Barcelona's derby victory followed its 6-1 thrashing of Zaragoza last week and gave it a record of eight wins, three draws and one defeat with 19 points.

Espanol slipped to No. 13 with 10 points.

Stoichkov slammed home the first from 10 yards out after taking a beautiful crossing pass from Dane Michael Laudrup that was sickly dummied by Jose Maria Bakker.

The Bulgarian, ranked as one of the world's best strikers, is the Spanish league's top scorer with 13 goals.

Miguel Angel Nadal bolted in a header in the 39th minute on a fast-driving low cross by Juan Goicoechea.

Minutes later Espanol, totally overwhelmed by its rival, was left with 10 men after midfielder Urdano Ortega was sent off on a second yellow card.

Dutchman Ronald Koeman hammered the third in the 65th minute from the penalty spot after Stoichkov was pulled down in the area.

Fellow Dutchman Richard Witschge, who substituted Stoichkov shortly after the penalty, slotted in the fourth in the 75th while Aitor Beguiristain made it five in the 84th minute.

Things did not run so easily for Real Madrid.

Oviedo went one up in the 22nd minute with a goal from Alberto Martinez Diaz. Real Madrid's defender Fernando Hierro netted the equalizer in the 37th minute and then an own goal by Oviedo's Croat defender Nikola Jerkan in the 55th minute allowed Madrid go up 2-1.

But Oviedo refused to lie down and pulled back level with the 75th minute goal by Carlos Munoz. Luis Millia, however, finally gave Madrid the third and final goal in the 80th minute.

Atletico Madrid moved into No. 3 after a 3-1 victory Saturday against Sevilla.

Goals were in no shortage for Athletic Bilbao which thrashed Sporting Gijon 4-0 with first half goals from Ernesto Valverde, Ander Gariñano and Jose Angel



Lazio's Paul Gascoigne



Juventus' Gianluca Vialli

Ciganba. Striker Julien Guerrero knocked in the fourth in the 65th minute.

The win puts Bilbao in sixth place with 14 points while Sporting slips to No. 8.

Meanwhile, Deportivo de La Coruna, toppled from its long stay at No. 1 last week, failed to extract more than a point from its 0-0 home encounter against Dutchman Guus Hiddink's Valencia.

The draw leaves Deportivo in fourth with 17 points while Valencia lies No. 7 with 14.

Albacete sank Logrones 3-1 with goals by Juan Antonio Chesa Camacho, Brazilian Antonio Carlos Zago and Delfin Geli while Jesus Garcia Pitarch gave Logrones a consolation netting in the 55th minute.

Zaragoza, reeling from its 6-1 thrashing by Barcelona and its midweek UEFA Cup 3-1 defeat by Borussia Dortmund, scraped a 1-1 draw away to Burgos with goals from Josea Aguirre for the home side and Jose Aurelio gay for the visitors.

Milan extend lead

Substitute goalkeeper Sebastiano Rossi turned away a Gianluca Vialli penalty kick with two minutes remaining Sunday, preserving AC Milan's 1-0 victory over Juventus in the battle of Italian First-Division leaders.

The victory stretched Milan's record unbeaten streak to 45 league games, improving it to 0-2-0 and extending its lead to three points in Serie A.

Internazionale, which beat Brescia 2-1 in another game Sunday, moved past Juventus into second place with a 6-3-2 record and 15 points, as Juventus (5-4-2) slipped to third with its first defeat at home in 18 months.

At Turin, the battle of Italian powerhouses before a capacity crowd of more than 70,000 saw both Juventus defender Dino Baggio and Milan's Croatian midfielder Zvonimir Doban hit the post early.

But it took until the 69th minute to score when an unmarked Marco Simone easily beat goalkeeper Angelo Peruzzi from the middle of the penalty area. Then it was up to Rossi, who had replaced the injured Francesco Antonioli in the first half.

At Rome, after Thomas Doll and Diego Fuser hit the crossbar in the 55th and 61th minutes, English playmaker Paul Gascoigne scored his first Italian League goal in the 86th, controlling the ball in the centre of the penalty area and beating Roma goalkeeper Giuseppe Zinetti.

The goal made it the fifth consecutive time the two Roman teams have drawn in the cross-town "derby." Giuseppe Giannini gave Roma the lead in the 48th minute.

At Parma, Colombian striker Faustino Asprilla managed the only score in the 51st minute in a cautious, tactical match. Asprilla sped past the Sampdoria defence before beating goalkeeper Gianluca Pagnani to the wide side.

Parma defender Lorenzo Minotti preserved the victory with four minutes remaining, clearing a shot by Sampdoria's Attilio Lombardo off the line.

At Naples, Gianfranco Zola scored twice, including the eventual game winner in the 43rd minute to end Napoli's three match losing streak. Defender Roberto Polanco gave Napoli the lead in the 19th minute, but Fabrizio Di Mauro drew Fiorentina even in the 34th. Zola restored the lead just before halftime, and then added an insurance goal in the 88th off a free kick, and Antonio Careca completed the scoring in the 91st.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Al Wihdat, Al Faisali drawn in Jordan Cup

AMMAN (J.T.) — Al Wihdat Monday drew 1-1 with Al Faisali in the second match of the final round of the Jordan Cup. Al Wihdat's Jihad Abdul Mun'em scored the match's first goal. Jiryes Tadros equalised for Al Faisali in the first half and both teams lost some chances to score more in the remainder of the time.

Al Orthodoxi win women's basketball tourney

AMMAN (J.T.) — Al Orthodoxi scored a crushing 59-20 victory over Al Ahli to win the women's basketball tourney. Al Jazireh came in second after scoring a 53-27 win over the Rosary School. Al Ahli finished third in the overall standings and the Rosary School finished fourth.

Pistons defeat Knicks 92-76

DETROIT (AP) — Joe Dumars scored 23 points, and the Detroit defence held the New York Knicks to 34 first-half points as the Pistons ended a seven-game losing streak with a 92-76 victory Sunday night. Detroit handed the Knicks their first loss in five games, but their fifth loss in their last six road games. The Knicks' loss followed an impressive 112-75 beating of the world champion Chicago Bulls in New York. The season-low point total was the second Knicks offensive collapse of 1992 in Detroit. On April 12, they set a team record for fewest points in a 72-61 loss.

Jahangir Khan seeks return to top

KARACHI (R) — Defending champion Jahangir Khan will hold centre stage at the Pakistan Open Squash-Championship starting Tuesday when he tries to overcome a back injury. A lumbar spine injury earlier this year forced the 29-year-old former world number one out of several tournaments, casting doubts on his career and world ranking. The man who has won the World Open six times is now ranked 26th in the world. But in front of a home crowd he will try to make a comeback for the second time in four months after dominating world squash for 12 years until the back injury forced him off the court in Johannesburg in September. A long absence from the international circuit has affected his world ranking and he may slip further unless he improves in the Pakistan Open, which he has won nine times in 11 attempts.

Costa Rica downs Mexico 2-0

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP) — Costa Rica beat Mexico for the first time in 20 years Sunday, using a pair of goals by Richard Smith to win 2-0 and revive its hopes of advancing in the Concacaf Region qualifying for the 1994 World Cup. The victory gave Costa Rica a 2-0 record in Group A of second-round qualifying in the North, Central America and Caribbean region. That put it two points behind Mexico and Honduras with two matches remaining in the round Robin Competition. Costa Rica, which reached the second round at the 1990 World Cup, last beat Mexico Aug. 6, 1972, a 1-0 victory in a friendly. That was 10 matches ago.

Magic says he will not settle lawsuit

OKEMOS, Michigan (AP) — Magic Johnson says he will not settle a lawsuit filed by a woman who claims he gave her the virus that causes AIDS. "It'll be taken care of. We know some lies they've said already and it's pretty clear for their case that they have to attack by character," he said while signing autographs of his autobiography "My Life." An Ingham County woman has sued Johnson for 2 million, claiming he infected her with HIV. She is identified only as Jane Doe in court documents. Johnson revealed his HIV infection Nov. 7, 1991. The former Los Angeles Lakers star signed about 350 copies at a bookstore in Okemos, which is near his hometown of Lansing. "It was an experience I'll never forget — a once in a lifetime thing," said Zach Ellis, 12. "This is Magic Johnson — he's pretty much a god here in Lansing."

Voeller to miss Brugge match

MARSEILLE (R) — West German striker Rudi Voeller will miss Marseille's European Cup fixture with Belgian champions Club Brugge next week after dislocating a shoulder at the weekend, club officials said Monday. The 32-year-old Voeller, hurt in a first half clash with Caen goalkeeper Benoit Caulet in Marseille's 2-1 home win is expected to be out of action for up to three weeks. Voeller, only just back after a rib injury, scored a goal and made the other in Marseille's 2-2 draw away to Glasgow Rangers in their opening match in the European Cup semifinal series. Marseille have been having problems scoring goals of late and the experienced German will be badly missed for the visit of the Belgians Dec. 9.

Jordan told to rest foot

CHICAGO (AP) — Michael Jordan was told not to practice Monday to rest his sprained left foot, but the Chicago Bulls' trainer expects him to be ready for Wednesday's game against Boston.

Jordan sprained the bottom of his left foot going for a rebound in the first quarter of Chicago's 112-75 loss to the New York Knicks Saturday.

He missed nine minutes in the first half while a doctor looked at the foot, and he returned to play most of the rest of the game despite the lopsided score.

Jordan saw team doctor John Hefferon after the Bulls returned to Chicago Saturday night, said team trainer Chip Schaefer.

"Michael's X-rays were negative," Schaefer said. "He suffered a sprained left arch ... nothing really serious."

"Everything looks to be all soft tissue, which is good ... He's really determined to play Wednesday, so we're shooting for that."

The loss to the Knicks was the worst the Bulls have experienced since 1982, two years before Jordan arrived in Chicago.

The 75 points were the fewest the Bulls have scored against the Knicks. The previous low against New York came in a 94-79 loss Feb. 26, 1983.

"This one game is not going to be the bethorning of the Chicago Bulls," Jordan said. "It's one game. Throw it away. That's it. We lost. We got killed. So what?"

Jordan, averaging 47.7 points in his previous three games, and the Bulls were pretty much out of the game from the beginning.

He missed 10 of his first 11 shots and 16 of 20 for the game. Nine of his season-low 17 points came in the fourth quarter, after the outcome was decided.

Jordan said he was afraid the injury was a bad one when it first happened.

"I went up for a rebound and felt a pop on the way up," Jordan said. "I was afraid it was more serious. I thought it might be my Achilles at first, but it was the bottom of my foot. After that, I didn't have much push off on my jump shots and no push on my drives."

The Bulls, meanwhile, shot 31.6 per cent for the game.

"The Knicks played aggressively and we forgot they allow people to play like that in this league," Bulls coach Phil Jackson said. "They were ready to play with intensity and it was obvious we weren't. We didn't score the first six times down the floor. It was pretty evident then."

Patrick Ewing had 26 points and 15 rebounds for New York, which allowed an average of 79.5 points in four games going into Sunday night's meeting at Detroit.

The Knicks broke an 11-game regular season losing streak against the Bulls in first meeting since last season's physical playoff series that Chicago won 4-3.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY DECEMBER 1

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter F

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A smile can smooth the way today as a dynamic friend is less than confident of your circumstances and isn't responsive to your request that is entirely in order. Try elsewhere.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Conditions concerning those with whom you have some outside partnership arrangements come into the open and can be well handled today, tonight.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Put an added touch of neatness and beauty into whatever you do and you find that your added activities please those for whom they are intended.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A fine day to make the appointments at places of entertainment or recreation where you most thoroughly enjoy yourself and keep a smile present.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Take a good look about your residence and see just what you can do to lighten and improve conditions in that vital realm of your affairs.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) When with those whom you see day in and out make a point not to take them for granted today but do something they would especially like and can bring you more support.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is a day matters or other you should take upon your thoughts and ap your basic source.

LIBRA: (September 22) You now have magnetism and you to see anyone whom you to for they will back your wishes.

SCORPIO: (October 22) Some private has been difficult for out with one of whom you must take the i

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22) If you warmth and are less in your relations will be able to get the with your vital aims

CAPRICORN: (December 22) Now is make a foray into world to get one of present in the back is very important to

AQUARIUS: (January 22) You can now fascinating person in or one who has a background from you by knowing this

PISCES: (February 22) Doing something your mate so that y bonds between you c er would be excellen engage in today.

THE BETTER HALF

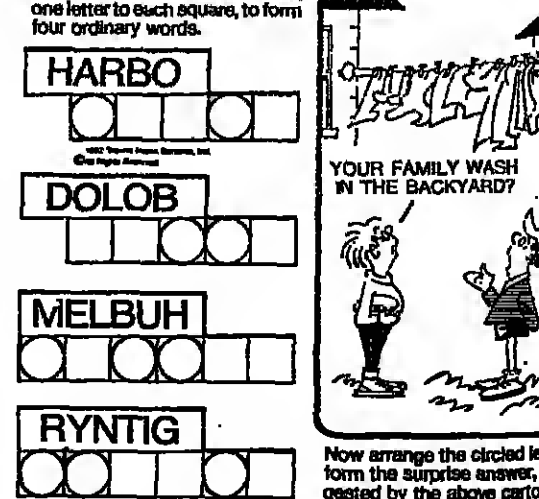
By He



"You set a bad example for the c She saw you using my ego for a scratching post!"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



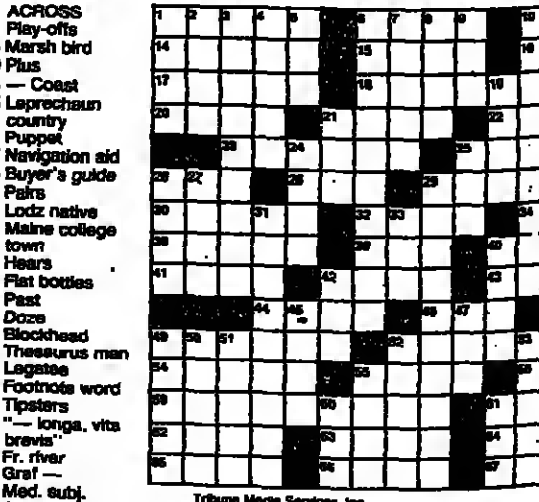
Answer: "HARBO, THE DOLOB, MELBUH, RYNTIG"

Yesterday's Jumbles: QUEER, FIAR, GIBET, NAPKIN

Answer: When a naive customer thinks he's "places," he's sometimes really this—BEING "TAKEN" THERE

THE Daily Crossword

by Hank Harrington



ACROSS: 1 Play-offs, 5 Marsh bird, 10 Plus, 14 Coast, 15 Lagerbeach country, 16 Puppet, 17 Heistman aid, 18 Buyer's guide, 20 Pairs, 21 Loxie native, 22 Maine college town, 23 Hears, 25 Past, 26 Flat bottles, 28 Loghouse, 29 Theatrical man, 30 Legume, 34 Footnote word, 38 Tipters, 39 Longa, vita brown, 40 Fr. river, 41 Graf, 42 Med. subj., 43 Senseless, 44 Author Ayn, 45 Danger color, 46 Alloy, 48 Defiant, 49 Vintage auto, 54 Heistman, 55 Speak in fun, 56 Mythical creature, 59 Literary ending, 61 Thin porridge, 62 Carter of TV, 63 Concerning, 64 Congregation words, 65 Deuce beater, 66 Requirement, 67 "Beau" — DOWN: 1 Essence, 2 Confess, 3 Carson's forte, 4 Offshore, 5 Mr. Neighbor, 6 Used, 7 Some exams, 8 Ceremony, 9 Collection of anecdotes, 10 Love, 11 Firm seals, 12 Moved actively, 13 Butcher's, 14 Recipe book, 15 Have a session, 16 In favor of, 25 Aesthetics, 27 Card, 28 Caused anxiety, 31 In a timeless, 33 Important time, 35 Conversations, 36 Sea bird, 37 Have a session, 40 Island resort, 42 One or another, 45 — time (revers), 47 Time zone, 48 abbr., 49 Exhausted, 50 Escapade, 51 Nimble, 52 Tractor man, 53 Crooner Mel, 55 Bride month, 57 Hite, 58 Other, 60 Card game, 61 John

Tomba is big loser in opening races

SESTRIERE, Italy (AP) — Alberto Tomba was the big loser in the opening World Cup races, but his Swiss rival Paul Accola was less than a winner.

Tomba failed in his bid of straight wins in his favourite races — giant slalom and a slalom — on the home track and before his fans over the weekend.

The 25-year-old Italian skier finished second to Norwegian rising star Kjetil Andre Aamodt in Saturday's giant slalom and fell in the second heat of Sunday's slalom following a sensational first run in which he outpaced all opponents but teammate Fabrizio Tescari by more than one second.

In the giant slalom Tomba, nicknamed la bomba (the bomb) for his powerful style, was overcautious while in the slalom he paid for an overly-aggressive tactic.

Accola, the defending World Cup Champion who's shooting

for a consecutive overall title, finished seventh in the giant slalom and dropped out in the slalom.

"It's no drama," the Swiss said after retirement.

"I am not disappointed," said Tomba following his spill.

However, they had started in different style last season, when they placed 1-2 in the opening races at Park City and Breckenridge.

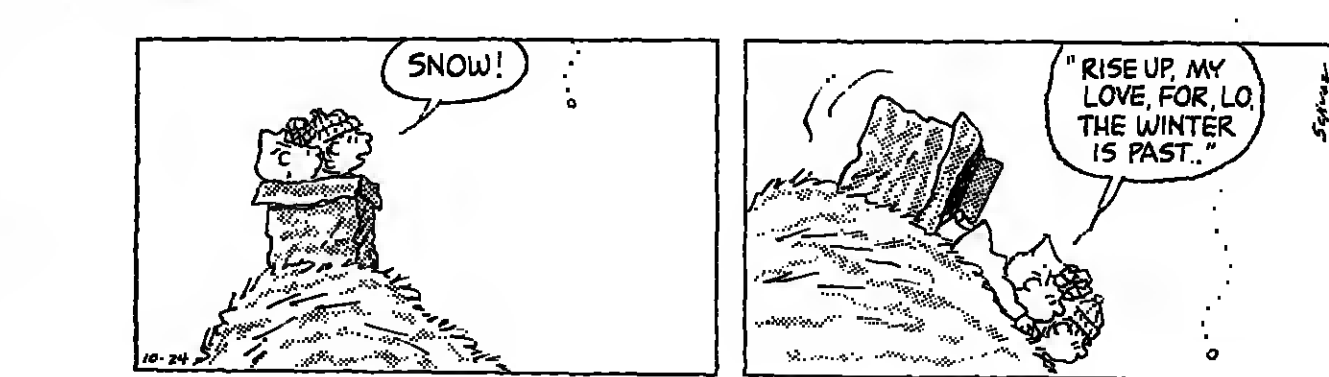
Their failure in this Italian Alpine resort took on the lime-light Aamodt and Tescari, who climbed to first place in the overall World Cup standings with 100 points each after two races.

Aamodt, the Olympic Super G champion, went close to a sensational slalom result after beating Tomba in the giant slalom.

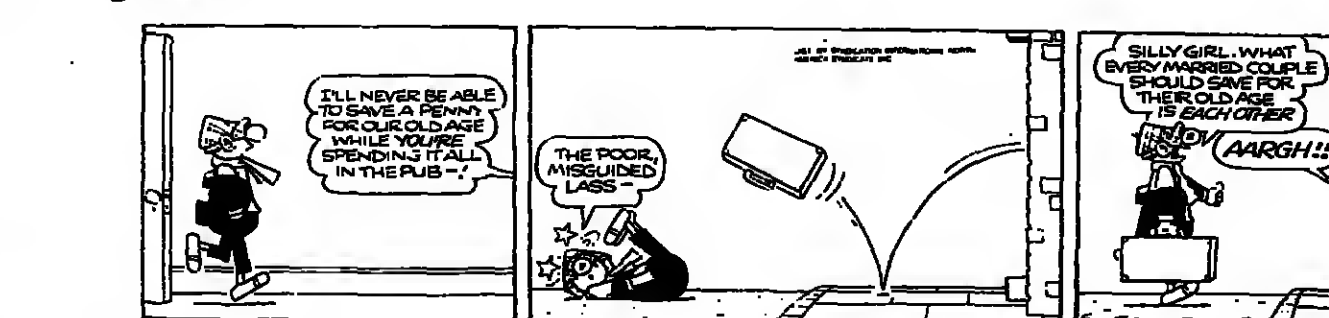
Third after the first slalom run, the 21-year-old skier from Oslo fell on the top straddling a gate in the second heat.

Tescari, 23, who had never placed higher than 15th in World Cup races, captured his first international victory ever beating Austrian Michael Tritscher by 0.30 seconds as most favourites tumbled down the tricky Kandahar Course.

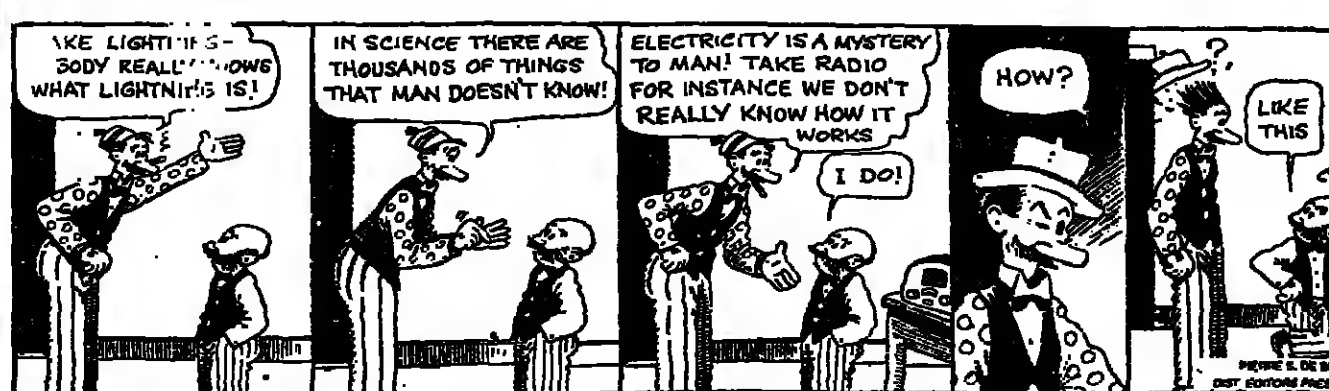
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSH

DON'T FLAUNT IT; HIDE IT

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 6 3 2
♥ 9 8 5 4
♦ 6 5 2
♣ K J 3

EAST
♠ 10 8 4
♥ K J 6 2
♦ A K 9
♣ Q 10 7

SOUTH
♠ A K 7
♥ A 10 3
♦ A K 9
♣ A 9 8 4

The bidding:
South West North East
2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

Counting is the secret to both playing and defending many hands. As a defender, anything you can do to keep declarer from getting an accurate count of your holding will eventually accrue to your benefit. A simple rule that will earn you huge returns over the years is: "If you have a choice of cards to play, play the one you are known to hold." Here's an example of how that counsel can reward you.

Now presume that, under the king of clubs, West plays the queen, the card West is known to hold. Declarer can still get home by playing the ace next, but the percentage line by a large margin is to finesse the nine. Down one.

Economy

Financial Markets
in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank
Dollar in International Markets

Currency	NEW YORK	TOKYO
STERLING POUND	1.5100	1.5090
DEUTSCHE MARK	1.3417	1.3405
FRANC	1.4395	1.4385
YEN	104.40	104.35
EUROPEAN CURRENCY UNIT	1.2245	1.2235

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTH	6 MTH	12 MTH
U.S. Dollar	4.12	4.17	4.22	4.27
STERLING POUND	7.43	7.45	7.47	7.49
DEUTSCHE MARK	9.13	9.15	9.17	9.19
FRANC	6.95	6.97	6.99	7.01
YEN	10.25	10.27	10.29	10.31
EUROPEAN CURRENCY UNIT	8.57	8.59	8.61	8.63

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	334.00	6.50	Silver	5.72	0.50

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.690	0.692
STERLING POUND	1.0408	1.0460
DEUTSCHE MARK	0.4295	0.4319
FRANC	0.4759	0.4783
YEN	0.1268	0.1272
EUROPEAN CURRENCY UNIT	0.5526	0.5554
Dutch Guilder	0.5522	0.5532
Swedish Krona	0.1007	0.1012
Italian Lira	0.0493	0.0498
Belgian Franc	0.02090	0.02100

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8030	1.8250
Lebanese Lira	0.03545	0.03645
Saudi Riyal	0.1537	0.1547
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2900	2.3100
Qatari Riyal	0.1869	0.1880
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2100
Omani Riyal	1.7660	1.7740
UAE Dirham	0.1649	0.1660
Greek Drachma	0.3286	0.3336
Cypriot Pound	1.4421	1.4530

Index	25/11/92	Close	29/11/92	Close
All-Share	166.40		166.30	
Banking Sector	119.97		120.01	
Insurance Sector	182.01		181.94	
Industry Sector	227.89		227.54	
Services Sector	235.01		234.50	

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

one sterling	1.5045/55	U.S. dollars	1.2850/55
one U.S. dollar	1.6000/10	Canadian dollar	1.4000/10
	1.8005/20	Deutsche marks	1.4455/65
	1.4455/65	Dutch guilders	32.91/95
	5.4340/80	Swiss francs	1401/403
	124.73/78	French francs	6.8550/600
	6.5500/600	Italian lire	16190/16200
	6.1900/6000	Japanese yen	160.00/160.50
	\$334.00/334.50	Swedish crowns	136.00/136.50
		Danish crowns	136.00/136.50

China yuan drops against dollar amid reform talk

BEIJING (R) — China's currency dropped steadily against the U.S. dollar during November amid rumours the government was contemplating making it freely convertible.

Officially, one dollar bought 5.7055 yuan Monday, against 5.5406 yuan on Nov. 1, according to rates published by Xinhua News Agency.

Using the International Monetary Fund method of calculation, the yuan has thus dropped nearly three per cent.

The black market rate for the dollar currently runs about 7.7 yuan to the dollar, Beijing residents said. In Shanghai, where certain businesses can legally ha-

lance their needs for local and foreign currencies at the country's most active swap market, the current rate is 7.2184, a spokesman said.

Bankers and businessmen in Beijing said there had been a spate of rumours recently that the government would soon announce that the yuan — known as the renminbi, or "people's currency" — would be made convertible in China's drive to re-enter the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

"We hear that the move to go convertible could happen very soon," a foreign representative for a high-technology company said.

Saudis plan big expansion of Red Sea port

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Saudi Arabia has approved a major expansion of the port of Jizan on the Red Sea and is preparing to request bids for the project, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

The weekly newsletter, published in Nicosia, was quoting an article in the November issue of Samarec News, the in-house magazine of the Saudi Arabian Marketing and Refining Co. (Samarec).

It quoted the magazine as saying the programme included:

- Construction of two floating moorings about 10 kilometres offshore to unload gasoline and diesel fuel.
- Construction of seven large storage tanks to increase bulk plant storage capacity from 340,000 to 1.79 million barrels.
- Installation of high-capacity pumps for high speed loading of road tankers.
- Establishment of a fleet of five small craft to support offshore operations.
- Construction of a new oily water effluent treatment plant to ensure a high standard of environmental protection.

The report said the new facilities would enable the port to offload 70,000 tonnes of products from tankers in 24 hours.

Dead Sea forum might heal Jordan's economic weakness

By Salam Shawwa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A Davos-style economic forum will be held next month to thoroughly examine Jordan's economic weaknesses in order to formulate the right strategies to brighten the Kingdom's investment climate.

The forum, which will be headed by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, will not take place on Swiss heights but on the quiet Dead Sea shore where key policymakers and private sector representatives are expected to be locked in brain-storming, intensive and comprehensive discussions.

Amman Chamber of Industry (ACI) Chairman Khaldoun Abu Hassan told a meeting of industrialists last month that the forum would be problem — oriented, spread over seven working sessions for a total of 14 hours in two days.

Mr. Abu Hassan gave the forum an extraordinary aspects by highlighting that the ministers of planning, labour, finance, industry and trade and the governor of the central bank would all be present to sort out the difficulties which the private sector feels are impediments to further industrial progress.

According to the ACI chairman, the forum is badly needed now to lay down new strategies and work out a truly attracting business environment in Jordan in line with economic events and changes sweeping the world.

He emphasised in particular the necessity to have all economic regulations in the Kingdom as "a one whole structure," whereby a high degree of harmony would prevail between all government institutions to ensure the smooth running of industrial ventures.

Mr. Abu Hassan said the deliberations would cover four broad areas namely:

1. Modernising various economic legislations such as investment, customs and consumption tax laws.
2. Reviewing complaints of industrialists on issues like water shortages, quality controls and value added tax.
3. Amending customs procedures, pricing system and labour regulations to encourage industries.
4. Export problems and ways to venture into non-traditional markets after experiencing setbacks from Gulf Arab countries.

The aforementioned four topics will be tackled in detail in seven working sessions, according to the ACI chairman.

He pointed out that ACI board members and representatives of the 13 industrial sectors, which act as consultant committees, are preparing all the necessary documents and workpapers for the highly important forum in January.

Western aid urged for Russian stock exchanges

MOSCOW (R) — Russia's nascent stock exchanges need help from the West before they can cope with President Boris Yeltsin's ambitious privatisation programme, according to a team of British specialists.

In a study funded by the European Commission they stressed the need for advice and training at every level to create a securities industry as well as major investment in systems.

"Even if the Russian market is small, Western aid is much too low now," Jonathan Miller, managing director of financial advisers Garside, Miller Associates (GMA), told a news conference.

"It needs to be increased enormously to provide the basis even for a small market, let alone a 'privatised' market," he stressed.

Mr. Yeltsin's government is due to sell off thousands of state industries and firms from the beginning of 1993 in the biggest privatisation programme ever tried. Vouchers are being issued to all Russia's 150 million people for buying shares.

But the country's stock trading system has been created from scratch in the last few years with the collapse of communism. Of the 80 registered stock exchanges, half are dormant.

The report, by Garside, Miller Associates and law firm Norton Rose, listed a daunting series of organisational and legal measures needed for the market to function.

First, the Russian government had to remove "major legal obstacles to market operations" and introduce laws providing a framework for stock trading.

"The number one recommendation is to set up some kind of enforcement of securities laws," Edward Lee-Smith of Norton Rose told the news conference.

"The investing public must have confidence in stock exchanges, that if something goes wrong they will have some form of redress."

Laws were needed on such areas as prospectus requirements, directors' duties, bankruptcy and fraud control.

Volume of trade needed increasing drastically.

"Now they undertake maybe dozens of bargains a day," Mr. Miller said. "They must be able to undertake thousands of bargains. They need big trading systems and systems for the mem-

bers of the exchanges to run their own offices and manage their clients."

Other urgent needs were for a clearing house to guarantee deals would be completed, and for mechanisms to provide investors with information about companies.

The report, a synopsis of which has been handed over to the Russian finance ministry, says the Russian banking system cannot service a proper stock trading system and that a financial intermediary sector needs establishing.

It recommends a U.S.-style national market system which would enforce clearing, settlement and registration between far-flung and diverse stock exchanges without forcing them

into a "straitjacket."

Mr. Miller said Western governments and organisations should target more of their aid at encouraging stock trading.

"In the 1991 (European Community) budget, out of 37.5 million ECU (\$45.8 million) going to the financial sector, only 3.75 (\$4.58 million) was going to the securities market. That is the wrong priority," he pointed out.

The 200-page report, to be given to the EC's executive commission, member governments and agencies, said aid donors should coordinate assistance to the Russian securities market.

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Russian court largely upholds Yeltsin ban on Communist Party

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Russia's constitutional court Monday largely upheld President Boris Yeltsin's ban on the Communist Party, but it also allowed the party to resume grassroots activity and try to regain some of its property.

Both sides claimed victory following the decision, which came on the eve of a crucial session of the Congress of People's Deputies.

The ruling could shield Mr. Yeltsin from impeachment attempts by former Communist holdovers who dominate the congress.

The country's highest court on constitutional issues decided that Mr. Yeltsin acted constitutionally in 1991 when he shut down the national structure of the party that ruled the Soviet Union for seven decades.

But the court also said local Communist groups can exist and left open the possibility that they could gradually rebuild a new national organisation.

Chief Judge Valery Zorkin, who presided over the four month landmark trial, said the court ruled that Mr. Yeltsin had the authority to seize state property that had been under the party's control.

But the judges said other party property should not have been seized without a decision of the court of arbitration, the country's business court.

Further legal action almost certainly will be necessary to determine what party property belonged to the state and what

portions were purchased from the dues of the party's 19 million members.

"The ruling has all the qualities of a compromise," said Andrei Makarov, a Yeltsin lawyer, speaking after the verdict was announced to a packed courtroom.

Yegor Ligachev, the party's former ideologist, said the court's ruling would allow the party to "both revive and unify."

He predicted it would give a boost to former Communists who have formed smaller parties, and that these will gradually form one large party that will seek to regain some of the party property.

Mr. Makarov, however, said he did not think the Communist Party was likely to restore itself on the basis of its "regional organisations."

"These organisations are practically non-existent and I doubt that former Communists will rush to join their ranks," he said.

Another Yeltsin lawyer, Mikhail Fedotov, predicted that former Communists will bring lawsuits to try to regain property purchased with party dues, such as old-age homes and youth camps.

"I think this is a victory not so much for the president as for society as a whole, which is learning to resolve such disputes in a normal, legal fashion," Mr. Fedotov said.

Judge Zorkin did not announce whether the decision was unanimous among the 13 judges.

The trial resulted from a lawsuit filed by 37 pro-Communist

legislators who contended that Mr. Yeltsin exceeded his constitutional authority when he issued three decrees banning the party and nationalising its property after the failed coup.

Fifty-two anti-Communist lawmakers filed a countersuit, arguing that the party was an unconstitutional organisation that illegally grabbed power in the 1917 revolution, sent millions of people to their deaths during Stalin's reign and resisted reform right up to its demise.

The court ruled that the countersuit by the anti-Communists was moot, because "in August 1991, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in fact collapsed and lost the status of an all-union organisation and that its organisational structure was dissolved."

The court wrapped up the trial on Nov. 13 despite the refusal of former Soviet President and Communist Party leader Mikhail Gorbachev to testify. Mr. Gorbachev had labelled the proceedings "a sham." He was fined for his refusal to appear and had a temporary travel ban imposed on him.

The timing of the verdict — the day before the congress convenes — raised suspicions that the court was trying to influence the political process.

Hardliners in the congress had hoped the court would declare Mr. Yeltsin's decrees unconstitutional and thereby provide grounds for his impeachment by a two-thirds vote of the 1,046 member body, which convenes Tuesday in the Kremlin.

Because it was a mixed ruling, however, the impact on the congress was left in doubt.

Meanwhile Mr. Gorbachev said Sunday Mr. Yeltsin is going too fast in his drive to privatise state-owned companies.

At a news conference at the start of a five-day visit to Argentina, the former Communist leader chided Mr. Yeltsin for trying to privatise "everything in one year."

"Why should a country like ours, with 200 million people and centuries of history, finish its privatisations in one year?" he asked.

Mr. Gorbachev, who was displaced by Mr. Yeltsin in 1990, argued that his successor was trying to undo in a single year the legacy of decades of communism and causing harm to the Russian people with his economic shock treatment.

"I'm against the timing and methods of the current administration's reforms because, once again, certain policies are being forced on the people," he said. "This is a disrespectful way to proceed with regard to our people."

Mr. Gorbachev said former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had only privatised a small fraction of government-owned industries in her 22 years in power.

He predicted Russians will continue searching for a sustainable economic formula, which would probably mix free market and socialist policies.

Mr. Gorbachev did not rule out returning to public office, saying, "I never gave up politics."



General Francisco Visconti of the Venezuelan Air Force talks to reporters after arriving in Iquitos, Peru (AFP photo).

Venezuela, Peru in row over rebel asylum

CARACAS (R) — A diplomatic row loomed Monday between Venezuela and Peru after Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori granted asylum to 93 Venezuelan soldiers who took part in a coup attempt last week.

Mr. Fujimori said Sunday he was accepting the soldiers' request for asylum "because here what we have to preserve is the security, the life and integrity of these 93 military."

The men, led by Air Force General Francisco Visconti, fled by air to the Peruvian jungle town of Iquitos after the failure of Friday's attempted putsch, in which more than 170 people were killed and scores injured.

Venezuelan Television broadcast the news from Peru shortly after midnight but there was no immediate official reaction.

Venezuela, which broke off diplomatic relations with Peru earlier this year after Mr. Fujimori suspended Congress, had already asked the Organisation of American States (OAS) to ensure Peru returned the rebels to Venezuela.

Political analysts in Venezuela

believed Mr. Fujimori might use the rebels as a bargaining chip to win renewal of diplomatic ties but Sunday's decision appeared to remove any immediate prospect of reconciliation.

Government and opposition leaders, reeling from the country's second coup attempt in nine months, appealed to citizens to use their vote in local and state elections next Sunday and demonstrate the power of democracy.

"Let no one go without voting," President Carlos Andres Perez said in a televised speech. "Let them go and vote for whoever they want to so that tomorrow, they don't have to lament."

Opposition leader Eduardo Fernandez called on Venezuelans to take advantage of a "great opportunity to vote for a government which is close to the people."

Mr. Perez, 70, whose unpopularity rating has soared 90 per cent, refused to resign and pledged to stay in power until the end of his term in February 1994.

Politicians of all persuasions were reluctant to endorse Mr.

Perez but condemned Friday's bloodshed, during which the government said rebels killed Presidential Guards and state television employees.

Although the coup attempt was quickly put down by loyal troops, aerial bombing of central Caracas made it more violent than February's putsch, in which 40 people were killed.

The capital was quiet in the early hours on Monday with shops and financial markets expected to operate normally.

There was no word of the fate of 1,300-odd officers and soldiers arrested in the wake of the coup attempt.

Government officials said Saturday the detainees, who include two rear admirals, faced trial within 10 days. If convicted, they could be jailed for 30 years.

Leaders of Latin American and Caribbean countries begin talks in Buenos Aires Tuesday about the future of democracy in their region.

Diplomats said the two-day meeting of the 13-member Group of Rio was likely to focus on the Venezuelan coup attempt.

Bosnia fighting continues despite truce

SARAJEVO (R) — Rival Croats and Serbs disregarded a partial truce in Bosnia Monday and fought pitched battles across the former Yugoslav Republic.

Bosnian radio reported shelling of the central Bosnian town of Turbe and the northern towns of Zenica, Tesanj and Doboj.

It also said the Muslim and Croat stronghold of Gradacac came under heavy shelling and infantry attack late Sunday. Five people were killed and an unknown number wounded in Serb shelling around the Serb-held town of Brcko.

These towns are in the corridor linking Serb-held regions in Croats with Serbia proper. As Croatian forces have to cross it to link Croatia with Croat-held areas in central and southern Bosnia, the two sides have fought pitched battles over it.

In the besieged capital Sarajevo, sniper activity intensified after a relatively quiet night, the radio said. An artillery attack on the Viktor Bubanj Prison killed three prisoners on a morning walk and wounded five others.

It also said nearby Vogosca was bombed.

The Belgrade-based news agency, Tanjug, reported only minor clashes overnight on the Herzegovina battlefield, where large numbers of regular troops from Croatia have been reported in recent weeks.

But the Serb army said the Croats and Muslims were abusing

the truce to bring in reinforcements, weapons and ammunition.

These forces were due to cease cross-border shelling and start withdrawing from Bosnia under the latest truce agreement, which was brokered by the head of U.N. peacekeepers in Bosnia, Major-General Philippe Morillon.

The Croatian government had previously denied any of its regular troops were deployed in Bosnia. But Geo. Morillon told reporters Croatia had admitted their presence for the first time Saturday.

In Geneva, the U.N. Human Rights Commission prepared Monday to accuse Serbs and their leaders of primary responsibility for the "human tragedy" in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Diplomats said a resolution drafted by the United States and Turkey was almost certain to be passed.

The text expresses deep concern "at the continuing grave, massive and systematic violation of human rights occurring (in ex-Yugoslavia), particularly in the areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina under Serbian control."

The 53-member commission was called into special session for only the second time in its history mainly to discuss the Bosnian issue.

In Belgrade, Yugoslav Prime Minister Milan Panic was expected to say within the next 24 hours whether or not he will run against Serbia's headline President Slobodan Milosevic in elections slated for Dec. 20, his aides told Reuters.

Belgrade students, in a last-minute move Sunday, nominated the moderate prime minister to run for the Serbian presidency after collecting the 10,000 signatures needed to put him on the ballot. The latest opinion polls in Serbia show him to be well ahead of Mr. Milosevic in popularity.

Western diplomats said the elections were vital to Serbia's future, and a panic victory over Mr. Milosevic could have a major impact on the outcome of the Yugoslav crisis.

"We would be more than a step closer to ending the war in Bosnia," one diplomat said.

Together with federal President Dobrica Cosic, Mr. Panic opposes Mr. Milosevic's nationalist policy of forcibly forging a greater Serbia with territory drawn from republics that have seceded from Yugoslavia.

Mr. Milosevic is seen in the West, and among moderate Serbs, as the main perpetrator of the fighting in former Yugoslavia which has killed thousands and made 2.5 million people homeless.

In the run-up to the election three of Mr. Panic's ministers have resigned in as many days. Oscar Kovac, deputy prime minister and a member of Mr. Milosevic's ruling Socialist Party resigned Monday pleading a conflict of interest because of Mr. Panic's apparent decision to run for the Serbian presidency.

Attacks continue on German refugee sites

BONN (AP) — Federal authorities said Monday they were holding a 19-year-old right wing extremist on suspicion of murder in connection with a blaze that killed a Turkish woman and two little girls.

Last week's firebombing, the latest and most brutal of nearly 1,800 rightist attacks this year, triggered an international outcry over resurgent neo-Naziism in Germany and thrust the government's campaign against extremists into high gear.

Federal prosecutor Alexander von Stahl said the man, identified only as Lars C., was a member of a right wing group led by Michael Peters, who was detained along with eight others last week in unrelated arson attacks while being investigated for connection to the Moellin firebombing.

Mr. Stahl said the 19-year-old, who was arrested Saturday, was accused of murder, attempted murder, arson and disturbing the peace. No formal charges have yet been filed.

Mr. Stahl's announcement came after a weekend of violence, despite the government's threats to eliminate right wing extremists. Sixteen people have died in Germany this year in attacks blamed on neo-Nazis and other rightists.

Young thugs set fire to a home for refugees and the apartment of a Turkish family, police said Monday. And a newspaper reported that in the east German town of Dautzen, skinheads carved a Nazi swastika into the cheek of a 14 year old German girl. Officials couldn't immediately confirm the incident.

Khmer Rouge forms new political party

PENOM PENH, Cambodia (Agencies) — The Khmer Rouge guerrillas Monday formed a new political party but indicated they still were unwilling to cooperate with the U.N. peacekeeping operation in Cambodia.

The guerrilla group, which had been calling itself the Democratic Kampuchea Party, announced in a statement that it had formed a new party called the National Unity Party of Cambodia.

An official at the party's Phnom Penh office, Meas Chey, said the membership was the same and the Khmer Rouge had simply changed its party's name. He did not know why, and said senior party officials were unavailable for comment.

The announcement indicated that the party's participation in elections scheduled for next year was conditional on changes in the country's political environment.

The Khmer Rouge had been known as Democratic Kampuchea since seizing control of the country in 1975 and killing hundreds of thousands of Cambodians in an attempt to turn the country into a giant agrarian commune.

Vietnam invaded in 1978, forcing the Khmer Rouge into the jungles, from where the group and Cambodia's two non-Communist factions fought the government in a 13-year war.

The four factions signed an agreement last year in Paris to end the fighting and authorise

U.N. officials to guide the country through elections by next May. But the Khmer Rouge has refused to cooperate.

"The National Unity Party of Cambodia will participate in the elections only when the Oct. 23, 1991, Paris agreement is correctly and fully implemented, particularly when all categories of Vietnamese forces of aggression have withdrawn from Cambodia," the guerrilla group said in Monday's statement.

The statement echoed those previously issued by the Khmer Rouge, which since June also has demanded more power over the government to create a neutral political environment before the election. U.N. officials have rejected this because it was not part of the peace agreement.

The Khmer Rouge has been demanding the eviction of thousands of Vietnamese soldiers it says remained behind after Hanoi ended its 11-year occupation of Cambodia in 1989. U.N. officials are required by the accord to verify the soldiers' withdrawal but insist they have no proof any stayed behind.

The U.N. peacekeeping chief in Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, said in a statement Monday that U.N. officials would continue to investigate the matter and would report their findings to the factions on Dec. 10.

He invited the National Unity Party of Cambodia to register as a political party. But Mr. Akashi

noted that to open offices and campaign in territory controlled by Cambodia's other three factions, the party also would have to open its zones to those parties and U.N. officials.

The Khmer Rouge is refusing access to its zones until its conditions for cooperating with the U.N. operation have been met.

The guerrilla group's new political party was founded in the heart of the 10 to 20 per cent of the country it controls — in Pailin, 355 kilometres northwest of Phnom Penh.

Meanwhile the Security Council was expected to impose trade prohibitions on Cambodian regions controlled by the Khmer Rouge Monday in what amounts to a last call for the guerrillas to join a U.S.-organised peace process.

A resolution, scheduled for adoption, also threatens to exclude the Khmer Rouge from Cambodia's first free elections in May if they do not allow voters in their areas to register by Jan. 31.

In the main, the document, drawn up by the United States, France, Britain and Russia, tells the Khmer Rouge that elections for a Constituent Assembly will be held in May, regardless of whether or they take part.

To this end the document also calls for presidential elections, presumably to provide stability and put in office Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's titular leader.

7 die, dozens hurt in Dutch train crash

HOOFDDORP, Netherlands (AP) — A packed commuter train skidded off the rails Monday morning, tossing passengers out the windows, killing up to seven people and injuring 33 others, police and Dutch Radio said.

Six of the injured were in serious condition and taken to hospitals by helicopter, police spokesman Jan Van Der Weijden said.

Heavy equipment was being used to right an overturned car feared to have crushed several passengers flung out of windows as it toppled over, Mr. Van Der Weijden said.

A spokesman for Dutch Railways said a train derailed near the same spot Saturday, but could not say whether the two incidents were related.

In the latest incident, the seven-car express train was pulling clear of Amsterdam headed for the southwestern port of Flushing when it left the tracks, Mr. Van Der Weijden said.

Four cars derailed, one rolling on its side and ending up about 20 metres from the line. Wheels and pieces of the car's undercarriage were scattered along the track.

Many passengers suffered broken bones and concussions as they were flung against the walls of the carriage or the seat in front of them, Mr. Van Der Weijden said.

Dutch Radio said seven bodies had been pulled from the wreckage, but police would confirm only four deaths.

China warns it is final arbiter for Hong Kong

PEKING (R) — China warned Monday that it holds a veto over all long-term projects in Hong Kong and said any government contracts it has not expressly approved will expire along with British rule over the colony in 1997.

The blanket statement by the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office of the State Council (cabinet) appeared to signal China's willingness to increase economic pressure on Hong Kong in an attempt to humble Governor Chris Patten, analysts said.

"Britain's administrative power over Hong Kong will terminate on June 30, 1997, and it will then have no right to handle any affairs after the date," the statement said.

"Contracts, leases and agreements signed and ratified by the Hong Kong British government which are not approved by the Chinese side will be invalid after June 30, 1997," the statement, distributed by Xinhua News Agency, said.

China's most explicit statement yet that it wanted veto power over any project spanning the handover of the British colony to Chinese control seemed certain

to shake business confidence in Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong Stock Market, already jittery because of Chinese criticism of government plans, plummeted nearly three per cent Monday after senior Chinese officials attacked a decision to award the contract to build a new Hong Kong container terminal without consulting the mainland.

The Chinese statement demanding veto power was issued after the market's close.

The two sides have been locked in bitter dispute for months over the planned funding of Hong Kong's \$22 billion new airport.

China says present plans will leave the post-1997 government a mountain of debt but Hong Kong this month awarded a \$1.2 billion contract for site formation.

Peking's communist Party leaders have been particularly infuriated by Mr. Patten's plans to introduce greater democracy in the colony on China's southern coast by 1995.

Official newspapers have accused Mr. Patten of gambling with the lives of Hong Kong residents.

Premier Li Peng himself has publicly ruled out a compromise

on the issue of more democracy.

Analysts said China's strategy was to isolate Mr. Patten by getting worried businessmen to support Peking.

The British Foreign Office called in China's ambassador Monday to complain about "inaccurate" Chinese comments over a Hong Kong shipping terminal as Peking fired a new broadside in the battle over the colony's future.

Foreign Office Minister Alastair Goodlad did not immediately tackle Ambassador Ma Yuzhen over Peking's warning earlier Monday.

But in an initial reaction, a British official said the statement appeared to follow on from last week's dispute over the shipping terminal land grant and were "more of the same."

The official said Mr. Goodlad told Mr. Ma in a brief, businesslike meeting that the British government was surprised and concerned at comments by Chinese officials last week that the British side had failed to consult Peking over the land grant. These were inaccurate, he told Mr. Ma.

Mr. Goodlad said the terminal land grant had been discussed on

March 20 at a meeting of the Sino-British Land Commission, set up to manage land allocation in Hong Kong.

"The Chinese side made no objection and the land (for the terminal) was included in the 1992-93 land disposal programme," the official said.

She said Mr. Goodlad also expressed his surprise and concern at a Chinese statement last week that the Hong Kong government had acted in violation of the 1984 joint declaration on the colony's future by not naming the land grant in meetings of a Sino-British Joint Liaison Group on Hong Kong's transition.

Under the joint declaration, China's Communist leadership promised to keep Hong Kong's capitalist way of life for 50 years after the handover.

Mr. Goodlad explained to Mr. Ma that the development of the shipping terminal would be carried out under the terms of the land grant and that no other form of contract or franchise was involved.

The official said Mr. Ma reiterated the Chinese position and did not add anything new. He was expected to report back to Peking.

Bodies of 3 nuns recovered in Liberia

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — The bodies of three of five American nuns slain in the guerrilla siege of the Liberian capital of Monrovia have been recovered, diplomats and international relief workers said Monday.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the three Roman Catholic sisters from the Illinois-based Adorers of the Precious Blood Order were recovered from the area of their Monrovia convent on Sunday evening.

Few details were available.

It is believed the bodies found are those of Shirley Kolmer, Agnes Mueller and Kathleen McGuire.

Also found at the scene was the body of their Lebanese security guard, the sources said.

Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA), armed wing of the radical Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC).

"We had a phone call and yes, we have to believe it," Colonel Herman Kogelberg said by telephone from the Eastern Cape city of East London.

"It is rather funny that they phoned us and of course anyone can make a phone call. But we must take it seriously."

Col. Kogelberg said all police available from all police departments had been drafted into the hunt for the five attackers.

Police offered a 50,000 rand (\$17,000) reward for information leading to their arrest.

PAC General Secretary Benny Alexander said the organisation could not confirm or deny the involvement of its military wing in the attack.

"There is a lot of hubbalo around the attack purely because white people have died," he said.

Mr. Alexander said many people believed political violence would be treated more seriously and even ended if it spilled over into white areas.

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COLUMBO

Crack SAS sold pinch Prince's

LONDON (R) — Sold the elite SAS British agent settled a row with Protection Police by Prince Charles's office, a figuring of his favour pony, the Today news Two commandos from which has won fame for a scolded a high wall the China figure to be had penetrated the Windsor Castle. While chiefs turned up at St. quarten for a security the fighting was display bar. Asked about its reaction to the raid, it said: "he burst out in

Chinese cheats target Olympic medallists

PEKING (R) — This a Barcelona, they ran, in ved and karate-kick to China's most imptes medal haul in history, na's Olympic medallists fending off cheats, co shady investment advi gangs of greedy hang hungry for a slice of t mong. Zhuang Xiny won a gold medal in judo was coaxed by fit spending 30,000 yuan (\$ a series of celebratory Table tennis clamps Yaping and gymnast L felt obliged to prese mobiles to people who especially helpful, the C ly said.

Gauls galled by vanishing lang

PARIS (R) — Perhaps Julius Caesar's fault, guage spoken by the gaul conquered by legions has virtually di from modern French. 20,000 most commo French words, only 40 g the ancient Celtic tongu ish, according to a i marking the 1,000th an of its French language; ing its roots. Of the re cent come from Latin c and 30 per cent from G English, Arabic and o guages. Publisher Alain French was born at the e 10th century from a form influenced by Germani

Britain's top ear gets \$9 million a

LONDON (R) — Brit earner beat the recessio therefold pay rise to £5 r million) this year — eari in one day than many pe year. Peter Wood, 46, head of the Royal Bank- land's Direct Line Insura sion, disclosed his bum packet to the Observer, er as the government s persuade businessmen t example and keep salari to help the fight against i Royal Bank's chief e George Mathewson told r he did not believe th was "over the top."

Sex mogul repia duke as U.K.'s richest man

LONDON (R) — Raymond, who owns pro London's Soho nightclu and publishes sex magazin deposed the landowning of Westminster as Britain est man, according to a published Monday. Busi estimates in its latest li Britaio's richest tha Raymond had accumulated total fortune of at leas billion (\$2.26 billion) thr combination of sex and p deals. Among the famo don buildings he owns a Raymond Revebar, Mada Jo's Nightclub and Romie Jazz Club. He also publishe Only, Club International Mayfair.

Tipsy teenagers i the swim with dolphin dips

HONG KONG (R) — Te pranksters have been ro off an evening in Hong Kon by breaking into a mariz and having a dip with the phins. Youngsters interview the South China Sunday Mo Post said they were dol lovers who just wanted to with the intelligent and affe creatures, who nuzzled and gave them rides arou pool. But animal welfare s said the nocturnal frolics at Kong's Ocean Park. O Park's chief executive said s ity would be tightened o out the pranksters.